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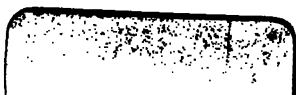
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ANNALS OF DEDHAM

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HISTORICAL

ANNALS OF DEDHAM,

FROM ITS SETTLEMENT IN 1635,

TO 1847.

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BY HERMAN MANN.

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DEDHAM, MASS.  
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HERMAN MANN.  
1847.

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## INTRODUCTION.

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Dedham is one of the oldest towns in New England. The Indians of this neighborhood had been nearly all carried off by the small pox in 1633. A portion of the lands comprised within the original limits of the town was purchased of the Indians for a fair consideration, and deeded to the Colony by Chikataubot, their Chief, about the year 1630. The original deed being lost it was renewed in 1685, by Josias Wampatuk, grandson of Chikataubot, which latter deed is still in existence. The more southerly portions were purchased of the celebrated King Philip, chief of the Wampanoags, and due payment made. The town derived its name from Dedham in England, from which place some of its first settlers emigrated in 1629.

In collecting materials for the Chronological department of this work, the compiler has availed himself of the facilities afforded by the Town Records, which include also the records of the original Proprietors, commencing with the first settlement and continued in an unbroken series to the present day;

Worthington's history, published in 1827; S. F. Haven's address, delivered at the second centennial anniversary in 1836, which gives a general view of the political and social character of the inhabitants from the earliest times; and to Rev. Dr. Lamson's centennial discourses in 1838, which latter details more particularly the occurrences connected with its ecclesiastical history. These are works of great ability, and evince much labor and patient research in the authors. Other historical addresses delivered before the citizens and published from time to time, have essentially aided in elucidating the early history of the town, and rendered a more detailed account of less importance at this time, as it would be but a repetition of what has already been given to the public. Numerous other authentic documents have been consulted, and with the above named are the principal sources from which is derived the matter contained in these pages.

In a portion of the original town records the dates are entered according to the ancient mode of reckoning time, when March was accounted the first month in the year. For the sake of uniformity in these pages, all dates are made to correspond with the present method.

Should some of the events here recorded appear as trivial at the present day, it must be remembered that they are only comparatively so, and were considered of some consequence at the time they occurred. They serve as connecting links in the continuous chain which unites one period of time with another, and could not well be omitted here without weaken-



ing that chain. A penetrating mind will readily discover their use and accord to them their due influence. Other occurrences that may be considered of more consequence are necessarily but briefly alluded to, as a more extended notice would be utterly inconsistent in a work of this kind.

Ample materials are at hand to furnish an interesting volume of any desirable extent, in the records of the first settlers of Dedham and their successors, and also for tracing events which mark the different epochs of time, and delineating the combined and individual character of the actors. The hope is confidently cherished that a work will yet be presented to the public, by some one possessing the requisite talent and sufficient leisure for the task, that will combine a more complete history with a genealogical account of the first settlers, and portray with deserved eulogy the energy and virtues so conspicuously displayed by many of the founders and natives of the town, and others who have come among us and become its benefactors.

It may perhaps be thought by some that another work in addition to those before enumerated, treating of the same subject, and starting like our own from the same point with them, ending also in a similar manner, must needs be superfluous. But we opine that it will be found something like a railroad, which, although sometimes moving along side by side with the old beaten track, sometimes crossing it, yet like the railroad too it in the main traverses different fields, opening new prospects to the view, and by pursuing a straight forward course reaches its destination by a

way peculiarly its own, possessing the charm of novelty at least to recommend it.

The leading object of the compiler has been to present to his fellow townsmen, and others who may feel interested in the prosperity of Dedham, a work which might serve to some extent as an index to the history of the town, and supply a vacuum which appeared to exist, as well as to facilitate the labors of some future historian. The locality of numerous places alluded to in the early records, before the construction of roads to any great extent in the town, have in many instances become lost to the present generation. These have been sought out and briefly stated ; by which it will appear that although it looks formidable on paper, the journey is but short from "Wigwam pond," along the "Ridge hill," through "Wigwam swamp," across the "country road" near the "wolf pit," thence over "Ragged plain" to "Green Lodge" or "Purgatory," and has often been travelled and may be again with perfect safety.

In the following annals but little scope has been given to fancy, or regard paid to traditionary legends, unless accompanied by corroborating circumstances which leave no doubt of their correctness. The design being confined principally to the relation of *facts*, in as concise a manner as appeared consistent with a full understanding of the subject, and to give the date of their occurrence with as much minuteness as their importance demanded.

In the multiplicity of papers among which information has been sought, some of them being much mutilated or defaced by age and difficult to decypher,

it is very possible that some errors may have crept in. But the reader may be assured that every precaution has been taken to guard against them.—Where there has been any doubt of the facts intended to be recorded, they have been either satisfactorily ascertained or entirely omitted. These pages have been extended to a number considerably beyond what was at first intended, and it has been found more difficult to comprise the subject matter within a limited compass than it would have been to spread it over a much larger volume.

The Statistical tables have been compiled with the greatest care, from correct sources of information, and particular attention has been paid in the arrangement of the whole, with a view of rendering the work more useful to the public as a book for reference.

The list of natives of Dedham who have graduated at colleges was furnished by Dr. D. P. Wight, one of their number, who has spared no pains to have it correct; also, the complete lists of town clerks and selectmen since the incorporation of the town. Other gentlemen have kindly assisted in facilitating this work; particularly is the writer indebted to Rev. Dr. Lamson for his valuable assistance in examining and correcting a portion of the proof sheets before publication; to all of whom the compiler would respectfully tender his grateful acknowledgments.

Having now placed ourselves in the precise position in which the good man of Uz wished his adversary had placed himself, as we read in the oldest record extant, (see Job xxxi. 35,) we must trust the magnanimity of critics to treat our humble production

with such leniency as the public good will justify them in doing. The information here presented being local in its nature and confined to a limited territory, is not calculated to interest a widely spread population, or be extensively circulated. Should it chance to meet the approbation of those who are more immediately interested in its contents, it will fulfil our highest expectations, and to them it is respectfully offered.

Dedham, May 20, 1847.

## PART I. .

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### CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY.

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1635. The original founders of Dedham came here from Watertown and Roxbury, and commenced the settlement this year. A Covenant was entered into for the government of themselves, and all those who were afterwards admitted into the settlement were required to subscribe thereto. The first recorded birth is on the 21st of June this year, precisely six years and four days from the morning when Winthrop and his associates entered Boston harbor, "to find a place for sitting down." A free grant for a plantation was allowed to the company of settlers on the 2d of the 7th month, (September 12) by the general court, then holding a session at Newtowne.

1636. In rebinding the town records in 1839, some of the leaves in the first volume appear out of place. The first and sixth leaves do not belong there. The second leaf contains the petition for incorporation and the order of court thereon. The third leaf has no date and it is not certain that it belongs there. The two next leaves contain the Covenant, with one hundred and twenty-four names attached. The Town Records commence on the seventh leaf, as follows: "The 15th August, being the 6th month, 1636, Assembled whose names are underwritten." This assemblage consisted of eighteen persons, and is the first recorded meeting of the inhabitants in this town. Preliminary meetings of the settlers were probably holden in the towns from which they came, where the requisite arrangements for the settlement

were agreed upon. Another meeting was held on the 29th of August, when the same number of persons were again assembled, but not all of them the same individuals as before. The next recorded meeting was held on the 6th of September following, when nineteen persons assembled, all of whom signed the petition to the general court, as did also three others after the meeting was dissolved, being all who had at that time subscribed to the Covenant. The second grant of lands by the general court, ratifying the previous grant and extending its limits conformably to the petition, bears date September 10, old style. The place had heretofore been called "Contentment," but by this act of the general court the name was changed to "Dedham," and the company of settlers first legally organized. The original limits comprised the present towns of Dedham, Medfield, Walpole, Wrentham, Franklin, Bellingham, Needham, Dover, Natick, and a part of Sherburne. All settlers, if married men, are allowed a home lot of twelve acres each; unmarried men, eight acres. All the waters in town are declared free to all the inhabitants for fishing.

1637. The inhabitants consisted of about thirty families. Measures are taken for laying out and establishing highways. In all divisions or grants of land, a reservation is carefully made that the town shall have a right to lay out a way through any man's lot, whenever the public good may require it; full compensation for lands so taken to be made by a grant of some other land in lieu thereof. All highways laid out are "to be well marked and dooled, and the bounds severally recorded." Absence from town meeting punished by fine, one shilling for the first half hour, and two shillings and six pence for the whole meeting. The roll of townsmen to be called "half an hour after the time of meeting is come." A foot bridge is built across Charles river, at a place called the Key, near Bullard's landing place.

1638. April, the present burial place in the first parish was taken from the south end of the house lots of Nicholas Phillips and Joseph Kingsbury, in exchange for other lands, and set apart "for the use of a public burial place for the town forever." The first church was gathered November 8, (corresponding to the

18th November, present style,) and Mr. John Allin appointed Teacher; on the 24th April following, he was ordained as Pastor. Mr. Allin was born in England in 1596, he died August 26, 1671. The first meeting-house is erected this year; it was built upon the site now occupied by Rev. Dr. Lamson's church. Another location near this spot was originally intended for this house; but, as the record expresses it, "it is condescended for loving satisfaction to some neighbors on the East side of the little River that the meeting-house shall stand upon the end of Joseph Kingsbury's lot, notwithstanding the order made the last meeting." It was determined that the size of the house should be "in length thirty-six feet, and twenty in width, and between the top of the sill and the eaves 12 feet, the same to be girded," and covered with thatch. The worshippers were for several years called together on the sabbath by beat of drum, for performing which service Ralph Day was, in 1646, allowed twenty shillings, to be paid in cedar boards. The second meeting house was built in 1673, and furnished with a bell. The present meeting-house was erected on the same spot in 1763. The Bible now used in the pulpit, was presented to the parish in 1785, by Mrs. Catharine Barnard, on condition that the reading of a portion of it should forever hereafter, be made a part of the religious exercises of the day, which had not hitherto been the custom.

1639. It is ordered, that every householder shall provide a ladder for his house, under a penalty of five shillings. A Canal, about three fourths of a mile in length, was made this year for conducting a portion of the water from Charles river to the source of East Brook, which empties into Neponset river, by which means a supply was obtained for several valuable mill sites. Abraham Shaw having made some preparations for erecting a corn mill in the town, leave is given him so to do, and eighty acres of land are granted to him and his associates for that purpose, provided the same be a water mill. Other facilities are offered for forwarding the work. A reservation is made in the grant, that in case said Shaw should sell or otherwise alienate this property, the town shall have the first refusal of it, "at such a price as another man would really give for any such aliena-

tion." Nathaniel Whiting and Ezra Morse soon after this time became possessed of the principal mill seats in the town, and they have been held by their descendants to the present day.

1641. The number of persons taxed is forty-two. In July, a leading way to the water mill is laid out.

1643. Two hundred acres of land south of High-street were made a common tillage field ; each proprietor's share was marked out and set off to him by a committee chosen for that purpose. Number of persons taxed is sixty-one.

1644. A Free School is established by the unanimous concurrence of the inhabitants, and 20*l.* per annum and certain lands appropriated until 1650, for its support. May 27, two acres of land on the westerly end of the training ground is granted to the military company and their successors forever ; the land to be laid out by said company. November 8, a road from the training ground to Cart bridge just built across Charles river is established, " three rods broad."

1645. Three hundred and seventy-five acres of wood land are set off and apportioned among the proprietors.

1647. May 27, a parcel of land is given by Daniel Fisher for a town Pound, he reserving to himself and heirs the right to cut the trees growing thereon. The number of freemen admitted into Dedham up to this time is fifty ; the number of non-freemen who have become inhabitants is nearly the same. The freemen only are permitted to take part in town affairs.

1648. The first school house erected near the meeting-house, with a tower on the top to serve for a watch house. The school master's salary until 1695 was 20*l.* per annum, it was then raised to 25*l.* September 20, the land previously granted to the military company is confirmed to them, to be improved as a training ground, and for no other purpose, without the consent of the selectmen. To make any other disposition of the land requires the joint consent of the military company and the officers thereof, and the selectmen.



1649. Eleazer Lusher is deputed by the town to assist in laying out the farm granted to Edward Alleyn, at a place near Bogastow, now the town of Medfield. A grant for an additional tract of land at that place for the purpose of forming a settlement there having been made by the general court, active measures are adopted for that object and the settlement is commenced. This grant of the general court bears date "the 22d of the 8th month," corresponding to the first day of November, new style.

1650. Henry Chickering and Nathan Aldis were chosen the first deacons in this town. The Dedham church was the fourteenth organized in the Massachusetts colony. The deeds and records relating to Medfield are transferred to the authorities of that town. Three acres of land are granted to Thomas Bancroft, to be laid out near the place called the Old Mill.

1652. Some preparations are made for building a second bridge across Charles river, but the design is abandoned for the present.

1653. A ditch or creek is dug from river to river, through the Broad meadows, on the northwesterly side of Dedham Island.

1656. A general division of the common lands, including all woods and waste lands, was made by the town among the proprietors. This act is rendered necessary in order to ascertain what proportion each proprietor shall be assessed, towards defraying the town expenses. In this division a lot was expressly reserved for the use of the church.

1657. The town having declared "that the meeting-house should be lathed upon the inside, and so daubed, and whited over workmanlike," the inhabitants turned out in a body, and the thing was done at once. The number of families in town is one hundred and sixty-six.

1658. It is ordered, that the two thousand acres granted to the Indians at Natick, shall be laid out at the westerly bounds of the town, on the north side of Charles river.

1659. Eight shares out of the five hundred and twenty-two into which the Dedham common lands were divided in 1656,

were awarded to the church, for the support of a "teaching church officer in the town." The remaining five hundred and fourteen shares were apportioned among the proprietors, by the arbitrators mutually chosen for that purpose by the town on the one part, and ensign Henry Phillips on the other part, the latter having with a few others complained of some infringement of their rights in the general division of the common lands. This award of the arbitrators settled existing difficulties, and was acquiesced in by all the parties. Nine persons were appointed to define the limits of the Indian town at Natick. These Indians were at this time under the instruction of reverend John Eliot. It appearing to the town that the 2000 acres granted to the Indians at that place did not take in the saw mill already begun by them, a further extension was made so as to include said mill and adjacent lands. October 6, the inhabitants "being generally assembled after training," to discuss the question of the lands about Natick exclusive of the grant to the Indians, it is decided that they shall be searched out and viewed, and what lands may be found fit to be divided shall be laid out to the inhabitants of the town, according to the rules of proportion formerly agreed upon. A saw mill is erected in the southern part of the present town. A highway from the town to the Cedar swamp, near the saw mill, is laid out. Robert Onion is allowed to have his highway work set off from year to year, for his services in ringing the bell forenoons and afternoons on the days appointed for working on the highways.

1660. A committee was deputed to treat with the natives that claim right at Wolomonopog, (now the town of Wrentham,) and clear that place from Indian title.

1661. A vote was passed, that sergeant Ellis and those who are engaged in killing wolves shall be paid for their time while so engaged, at the same rate as others are paid while employed in town work.

1662. The Indian title to Wolomonopog was purchased of king Philip, for the sum of 24*l.* 10*s.* The tract purchased was six miles square, or a quantity of land equal to it.

1663. The town is presented for want of a school.

1664. A new corn mill is built this year by Ezra Morse and Daniel Pond, a short distance above the one previously erected on Mother Brook. Eight thousand acres of land at Deerfield, (called Pocumtuck in the records,) is selected by the agents of Dedham for a settlement, by permission of the general court, in lieu of the two thousand acres granted to the Natick Indians. The number of houses in Dedham at this time is ninety-five, all small, situated near each other, in the vicinity of the spot now occupied by the court house; the greater part of them east from that place and near Dwight's bridge. A row of houses stood on the north side of High-street, as that road was then called which leads from the bridge over the Little river westwardly by the court house. The greater number of these houses were worth from three to four pounds each; four only were valued at twenty pounds. To the compactness of their situation and the vigilant watchfulness of the inhabitants against surprise, may doubtless be ascribed their escape from the attacks of the Indians, who soon after this period laid waste so many of the more defenceless villages of New England.

1665. January 12, a way from the meeting-house to the Burial place, one rod broad, is laid out on the west side of the church lot, "for the use of a Bear way." The selectmen are required to "take care that the burial place may be sufficiently cleared from grass and well fenced in, and the aforesaid way also be cleared from grass, and all be done at the public charge." The persons chosen this year as fence viewers, are instructed to see that the order of the town requiring a ladder to be placed against each dwelling house, is duly complied with.

1666. The number of legal voters in the town is eighty-three.

1667. Sheep were first introduced into the town.

1668. Regulations were adopted respecting the water flowing through the Mill creek.

1669. August 3, there being a great scarcity of grass this year, whereby the procuring of hay for wintering cattle is like to

become difficult from the usual sources, measures are adopted by the town to get a supply from the meadow lands not yet appropriated at Wolomonopog and beyond, within the bounds of the town. A letter is received from sagamore Philip of Mount Hope, tendering sale of his rights in the lands in the town which lay beyond Wolomonopog, and desiring 5*l.* in advance on that account, which is paid him accordingly. September 29, an assessment of 3*s.* 4*d.* is made upon the proprietors of every "cow common," for the payment to Capt. Pynchon of 96*l.* 10*s.* for the purchase of the Indian rights at Pocumtuck. November 15, the town ordered seventeen pounds eight shillings to be assessed on the common lands to complete the payment for lands purchased of king Philip. A contract is made with Mr. Samuel Mann, to keep the school one year for 20*l.* to be paid in corn at the current price. A foot way is laid out from near the bridge over Little river to the new corn mill on Mother Brook.

1670, January 11, Nathaniel Colburn represents to the town that "a great part of the Mill creek being digged within his land," for the purpose of supplying the corn mills with water, he is entitled to remuneration in some other land, which is granted to him. An "artist" is employed to lay out the lots at Pocumtuck among the proprietors. A committee is also empowered to assist the artist in laying out the lots, and to "order the situation of the town for the most convenience, as in their discretion shall appear best;" care being taken to lay out highways to the best advantage, and to select a suitable place for "the meeting-house and church officers lot or lots." Not more than twenty cow common rights are to be located together in one place. The Indian church at Natick has two teachers and about fifty members.

1671. Apprehensions being entertained of trouble with the Indians, it is ordered, that "the great gun now in town with the carriage thereunto belonging, be set in repair fit for service." A tomb, with a suitable inscription, and a "monument of stone and lime mortar, and to be covered with timber," is ordered by the town to be erected over the grave of the reverend John Allin, their pastor, lately deceased.

1672. The old meeting-house is taken down for the purpose of erecting a new one on its site. The new house is furnished with a bell. One Balch received ten shillings for one year's service in beating the drum on the sabbath to collect the congregation. Every man who hitched his horse to the meeting-house ladder, forfeited sixpence to Robert Onion. A leading way is laid out from East-street to Nathaniel Whiting's mill.

1673. Wrentham. (including the present town of Franklin,) is set off and incorporated as a town. In September, the selectmen of Dedham received orders from the general court to put the town in a posture for war. Upon this, the soldiers were frequently trained, a barrel of gunpowder and other ammunition procured, the people built a garrison, and set a watch. The fear excited by the Indians was very great, and many fled to Boston.

1674. Thomas Clap gives a bond to the town, pledging his saw mill and all his rights and privileges therein, that Henry Earle and Elizabeth Leonard, two visitors residing with his family, or either of them, shall not be "any trouble or damage to the town." The sum of eight shillings is allowed to Nathaniel Heaton, for keeping the dogs out of the meeting house and shutting the door.

1675. Commenced the bloody Indian war known as King Philip's war. The first actual outrage is related to have been committed in Dedham. A man was found in the woods, shot through the body, and the murder traced directly to king Philip. The first company engaged in the war, mustering twenty-one men, was raised here early in the year and placed under the command of captain Prentice.

1676. On the 25th July, Pumham, sachem of Shaomet, (now Warwick, R. I.) who had joined king Philip, and next to him was the most dreaded of the Indian warriors, having sought refuge in Dedham woods, was attacked and slain and many of his band made prisoners by a party of Dedham and Medfield people, assisted by a few friendly Indians. The following notice of the capture and death of this celebrated warrior is found in S. G.

Drake's Book of the Indians: "He was one of the stoutest and most valient sachems that belonged to the Narragansetts; whose courage and strength was so great that, after he had been mortally wounded in the fight, so as himself could not stand, yet catching hold of an Englishman that by accident came near him, he had done him mischief, if he had not been presently rescued by one of his fellows.' Pumham, with a few followers, had for some time secreted themselves in Dedham woods, where they were fallen upon by the English under captain Hunting, who killed fifteen and took thirty-five without resistance. They found here considerable plunder; 'besides kettles there was about half a bushel of wampumpeag, [Indian money] which the enemy lost, and twelve pounds of powder, which the captives say they had received from Albany but two days before.'" The death of king Philip on the 12th August following, and the capture of Annawon the last of his chiefs eighteen days after, terminated this destructive war. Dedham furnished thirty-five men against the Indians this year. The number of persons taxed in the town is ninety-five,—all from England with one exception, an Irishman.

1677. In November, a great black boar, eight feet in length, came into the town, and was shot at thirteen times before he could be killed. Almost the whole town was mustered before he could be mastered. One acre of the training ground is granted to Amos Fisher and his heirs forever, "according to a vote of the trained company." Liberty was also granted this year to Mr. Samuel Mann to improve one acre and an half of the east end of the training ground, provided the trained company concur therein. Sam. and Ben. Mills having taken two young Indians to reside in their families, are required by the selectmen to give bonds in the penal sum of 80*l.* to secure the town from damage by so doing; they are also fined 5*s.* each for neglecting the order of the town and entertaining these papooses without liberty. The fines are satisfied to the town by a wolf, killed by Ben. Mills.

1678. Complaints being made that many persons in the town, "in time of publike worship on the sabbath dayes, and other times, do not attend in the seats in the meeting house where the

comity chosen by the Towne have ordered them, but intrude into seats appoynted to other persons, thereby causing disorder, to the grife and offence of many and ill example to others"—the selectmen order that all such disorderly persons be duly notified of the complaints against them, and required to attend the worship of God in the seats assigned them by the committee, under a penalty of five shillings for each neglect, one third to the informer, the other two thirds to the use of the town. The number of persons assessed this year to pay the ministers salary is one hundred and six.

1680. Dr. William Avery made a donation to the town of 60*l*. for the support of a Latin school. The Indian titles to the lands in Natick, Needham, and Dedham Island, are extinguished by the town paying to William Nehoiden, the sachem making a claim, ten pounds in money, forty shillings in Indian corn, and forty acres of land at the upper falls on Charles river, for a tract of land seven miles long, from east to west, and five miles wide, on the north side of Charles river; and to Magus, another sachem, the sum of eight pounds, for his lands about Magus hill. A new bridge is built over Charles river, at a place called the Canoes, on the direct rout from the town to the great plain. Ezra Morse receives the bounty of 10*s*. each for five wolves killed; many wolves are destroyed this year by different persons.

1681. Information being given to the selectmen, that John Littlefield "being at his own hand runs up and down from place to place, misspending his time, and by that means may not only bring ruin to himself, but also charge and damage may come to the town," he is sent for, and ordered to dwell with Thomas Aldridge, until he can be provided with a master who will learn him a trade.

1682. A vote was passed that no one of the inhabitants should remove to a greater distance than two miles from the meeting house, without special license. Ordered, "that all deeds of lands to our town, from Indians or others, and also all arbitrations and awards between our town and other towns, and between our town and particular persons, shall be called in and delivered to the selectmen, that they may be either transcribed into the Book of

Records, or otherwise preserved, that they may be known to after generations." In pursuance of this order, several documents were brought in to the selectmen, and by them delivered to deacon John Aldis, to be by him kept safely in a box. Among these papers were seven deeds from Indians, four of which were concerning lands at Pocumtuck, one from king Philip, also a receipt from him, one deed from Nehoiden, and one from Magus. It being proposed to the Proprietors, whether they will choose a committee to manage their Proprietary, they decline so to do, but declare their willingness to leave it in the hands of the selectmen until they shall take further order thereon. The selectmen being informed that several Indians were residing in the town, the constable is directed to warn them to remove themselves to Punkapoag, Natick, or Womosset, according to law.

1683. Leave is granted to Nathaniel Whiting and James Draper to erect a fulling mill below the corn mills on the stream called Mother Brook, and facilities are allowed them by the town for that object.

1684. January 30, "this day after lecture it was put to vote of the freemen and inhabitants whether they did desire the Governor and Company would defend their Charter and privileges so far as they can;" it passed unanimously in the affirmative. "It being put to them if they were willing we should make a full submission and entire resignation to his Majesty's pleasure as in his declaration is intimated, it was by all voted in the negative."

1685. The Indian title to the lands in Medfield, and all lands west of Neponset river claimed by the Neponset tribe, originally purchased of Chikataubut their chief, was confirmed to the settlers by Josias Wampatuk his grandson, for the consideration of four pounds ten shillings. In August, began a vacancy in the ministry and continued until November, 1693, during which time the town was in a "low and divided state." The town voted to raise the causeway at the Little river to such a height that carts may pass ordinarily without difficulty, notwithstanding the water, and to do it on account of highway work.

1686. The number of persons taxed in the town is one hundred and twenty-four.



1687. In February, the inhabitants being assembled in town meeting, voted generally, that "if any appear to purchase the Training Ground, and will give betwixt 30 and 40 pounds in money, or not much less," it might be sold, "if the trayned company, the military officers, and the selectmen approve thereof."

1690. The Landing place in Dorchester, owned by the town of Dedham, is ordered to be sold, to raise five pounds to pay Nathaniel Richards; it being due to him for money advanced to pay Josias the Indian for a release of his claim to certain lands within the bounds of the town.

1691. The town is indicted for not supporting a school.

1692. A year rendered memorable in the annals of New England, from the sufferings occasioned by the delusions of pretended witchcraft. A portion of Essex county was the most affected by it, but it was not confined exclusively to that region. There is reason to believe that the malady did not extend to this place, as no mention is made of any Dedham people being brought within its malign influence.

1694. Jonathan Fairbanks having complained to the town that the way to his land at Low Plain, as first laid out, had become so "annoyed and stopped" as to be difficult to find, a committee is appointed to stake it out anew, as near the original bounds as can now be ascertained.

1695. Three hundred acres of land were granted by the Proprietors, for the support of schools in the town, to be managed by Trustees, and called the School Farm. This tract to be located in that portion of the common lands lying in the north part of the town, (now Needham,) and the best of the lands there.

1696. In March, Rev. Mr. Belcher proposed to the town that if they would make up his salary for the quarter commencing 15th December last, he will take up with a free contribution for the remaining three quarters of the year, which proposition is acceded to by the town.

1697. March meeting, Rev. Mr. Belcher being present, "declared his kind and thankful acceptance of what the town had

done for him the last year on account of his salary, in a way of free contribution," and his willingness to rely on the same method, instead of a salary, the present year.

1698. In March, voted, that Rev. Mr. Belcher's salary be 60*l.* in money, and to be supplied with wood. Each person to enclose his portion of the salary in a paper and to put it into the box on the sabbath days, with his name written on the paper, that the deacon might keep an account thereof. All loose money put into the box to be accounted as a free gift to the pastor.

1699. Thirty-four hundred acres of the undivided lands lying near Sudbury and Watertown, now included within the bounds of Sherburne, were apportioned among the Proprietors in lots of two hundred acres each. The bounty for killing wolves is increased to twenty shillings, for each full grown wolf, and an unusual number are destroyed. In March, the School land is ordered to be sold, and the money received for it to be improved for the benefit of a school in Dedham. Forty acres of land near Neponset river are granted to Ezra Morse, in satisfaction to him "for letting fall his corn mill at Mother Brook," for the benefit of the meadows and the other mills.

1700. The corn mill of Timothy Whiting having been destroyed by fire, the town granted to him the loan of 25*l.* without interest, of the money to be received from the sale of the School Farm, to rebuild it. In September, "Sir Prentiss began to keep the school, and is to receive 25*l.* for the year and keeping his horse with hay and grass." Twelve acres of land are granted to John Metcalf, for encouragement to him to set up his trade as a tanner in this town. A highway is laid out, by desire of Lieut. Gov. William Stoughton, from the country road near the Wolf Pit, on the west side of Ridge hill southerly to Purgatory swamp and Neponset river, two rods wide.

1701. Voted, to raise the sum of 40*l.* to enlarge the meeting-house; half to be paid in wheat, at 5*s.* per bushel, rye at 4*s.* and corn at two shillings, and a days work at two shillings. A number of Roxbury people living adjacent to Dedham, and usually attending public worship here, offer to bear a proportionable

share of the expense of enlarging and repairing the meeting-house, which offer is accepted by the town. The town by vote declare that no act passed half an hour after sunset shall stand good or be valid. A former vote of the town is revived, prohibiting the owners of houses or lands from disposing of the same to strangers, or to any person who is not an inhabitant or proprietor, without the approbation of the town or the selectmen for the time being. Information is given to the selectmen, that "a leame gearle is lately come into our town whose name is Wodckins, entertained at the house of Edward Cooke;" sergeant Kingsbury is desired "to give notis to said leame gearle that she doe depart forthwith out of this town, and also to give notis to said Edward Cooke that he is disailowed to entertaine her in our said town." Similar notices are frequent in the records. A highway is established by the town, from Dedham Island over the great causeway to the great plain, three rods wide.

1702. Liberty is granted to inhabitants to erect pews on the lower floor of the meeting-house, at the sides where there are no seats, under the direction of a committee. Short pews were also voted to be made by the pulpit stairs, where the boys shall be seated.

1704. March 6, a general meeting was held and the usual town officers chosen. Doubts being entertained by some of the legality of this meeting, on account of informality in the warrant, another meeting was held on the 13th, when it was voted that the former election was illegal. The selectmen ordered another town meeting to be held on the 27th of the month, at which time a new set of town officers were chosen. Dissatisfaction still existing among the inhabitants, application is made to the court of general sessions, which court annulled the proceedings at the two former elections, and issued a warrant for a new election to be made on the 17th of April following; on which day a third set of town officers were chosen, and the affairs of the town proceeded on smoothly as before.

1705. Three acres of land are granted to Eleazer Clap, to be laid out to him at the Major's plain, adjoining his own land, in exchange for one acre at the corner of his home lot, between the

highway and Neponset river, for a Burying place. August 31, a receipt appears in the town records, over the signature of Rev. Mr. Belcher, acknowledging the annual receiving in years past of the 60*l.* granted by the town for his salary, also from sundry individuals of 40*l.* additional, yearly, which it appears was promised him at his settlement, making his salary 100*l.* per annum in money, and wood to the value of 10*l.* The receipt is in full up to March 1, 1704. The ministerial tax this year is assessed upon one hundred and fifty-six persons.

1706. Nicholas Cook, and some other inhabitants of Dedham, "living near to Mendon, upon consideration that they are new beginners there, and summe of them very poore," are at their own request exempted from paying any portion of the public charges for two years. May 13, it was put to the vote of the town, whether they will forego the new bridge over Charles river, and build a bridge at the place called the Old Mill—decided in the negative. The Cart bridge over Charles river is rebuilt this year, partly by highway work.

1709. The new bridge having been carried away by a flood, measures are immediately taken for rebuilding it. A committee is appointed to make application to the county court, to have a portion of the expense of building some of the bridges on the country road paid by the county.

1711. Needham is set off from Dedham and incorporated as a township.

1715. "Whereas, great complaint is made to the town of disorders in the meeting-house by boys in playing and other ways, the town declare their mind is, that all the boys under fourteen years of age shall sit in the alleys below, or in the hindmost seats in the south gallery; and the town have left it with the selectmen to depute meet persons to take care of said boys." A way is laid out from the way leading to the new bridge to the way leading to Nathaniel Richards' farm; also from said way to the roadleading to Westfield.

1716. The bounty allowed for killing wolves is repealed.

1717. Highways are laid out this year from Sandy Valley hill to Dead swamp; from Rock meadows to lands of John and Joseph Baker, near Dunkling's hole, across Cedar swamp brook; and from said way to the church land, in the west parish.

1718. In March, the selectmen agreed with Jarvis Pike to take care of the boys in the meeting-house, and keep them in order three months for six shillings. The town ordain that any person, who is an inhabitant or proprietor of land in the town, who shall lease any house or land to a stranger not regularly admitted to be an inhabitant of Dedham, and giving such security as the selectmen may reasonably require—such person to forfeit and pay twenty shillings for each month such stranger remains. It is further ordained, that any person or persons belonging to Dedham, who shall directly or indirectly keep, harbor, or in any way entertain any person that the selectmen have warned to depart out of the town, shall forfeit twenty shillings for every month they shall so entertain or harbor such person.

1719. Bellingham is set off from Dedham and incorporated as a township. In May, a bounty of six pence is voted for every rattlesnake killed in the town; the persons claiming this bounty to bring in to the treasurer an inch and a half of the end of the serpent's tail with the rattle. A highway from New bridge to the road leading by Westfield is ordered to be laid out, where land is left for the same.

1721. The rattlesnake bounty is repealed. Cart bridge is rebuilt this year. November 27, a petition is presented to the selectmen, requesting them to call a town meeting for the purpose of choosing Trustees to receive and dispose of the town's share of the 50,000*l.* of bills of credit, issued by order of the general court; the selectmen decline calling a meeting at present, "because of the spreading of the sickness of the small pox, and because of the fears of suffering further." Three Trustees were subsequently chosen to receive the town's share of this loan, and to let it out on interest to the inhabitants for four years, in sums not exceeding 20*l.* nor less than 5*l.* to any individual.

1722. January, the small pox is still prevalent in the town, and the inhabitants hold their meetings in a private house, for

fear of the contagion. The inhabitants living in the south part of Dedham, petition to be set off as a separate precinct; a committee is chosen to report on the subject. Five pounds are voted to rebuild New bridge, provided Needham will rebuild the other half. The Trustees who hold the school money are instructed to let it out at six per cent. interest. The inhabitants living at Clapboardtrees, present a petition to the town to have the meeting-house removed, for their better accommodation, or else to be set off as a separate town or precinct—petition not granted.

1723. April 29, six of the citizens are deputed a committee to proceed to Roxbury, for the purpose of bringing the body of reverend Joseph Belcher, who died there, into Dedham; forty pounds were subsequently voted by the town to defray the expenses of his funeral. A small parcel of land is granted to Jean Barnard, near Little river, for a place to burn lime. The stocks belonging to the town having disappeared, sergeant William Bulard and Ephraim Wilson are desired by the selectmen to look them up, and when found to repair and set them in their place. August 26, the boys continuing to be troublesome in the meeting-house, Jarvis Pike is again employed to keep them in subjection until next March meeting, for which service he is to receive sixteen shillings. Mr. Samuel Dexter received a unanimous call from the church and the town to become their pastor. His reply, accepting the invitation, is dated at Mendon, Dec. 6.

1724. Walpole is set off from Dedham and incorporated as a township. Mathew Barnard is fined 3*l*. 6*s*. 8*d*. the money "to go to the poor of the town, for his default in selling drink without license."

1726. The school is kept as last year, part of the time at the school house near the meeting house, and part of the year at the house of John Richards in Clapboardtrees. The masters' salary is forty pounds.

1727. In March, voted, that the money given to the town by Robert Avery, lately deceased, be confided to the Trustees of the school money. July 31, a town meeting was held to consider the petition of the inhabitants of the southerly part of the town,

to be set off as a distinct precinct; the petition is rejected, and a committee chosen to oppose the project at the next session of the general court. A petition from the west part of the town to have the meeting-house removed to a more central location, is also rejected.

1728. Three Trustees are chosen to receive the town's share of the 60,000*l.* of bills of credit, recently granted by the general court; the same to be let out to the inhabitants in sums not exceeding 20*l.* nor less than 5*l.* to one individual.

1730. The second parish, including Clapboardtrees and a portion of Stoughton, is incorporated into a separate precinct.

1731. John Metcalf is chosen agent for the town, to confer with other towns that may be inclined to petition the general court to be set off from Suffolk as a separate county.

1732. Doctor Nathaniel Ames, the celebrated almanac maker, removed to Dedham from Bridgewater. He published forty almanacs in as many successive years. Dr. Ames died in 1764. He was the father of the late Dr. Nathaniel Ames, and the late Hon. Fisher Ames. The Trustees of the town's share of the 50,000*l.* loan money are directed to collect and pay the same to the Trustees of the school money, to be by them improved for the use of schools as the other school money is. The representative to the general court is instructed to use his endeavors to have Dedham and other towns set off from Suffolk and erected into a separate county. The three precincts, to wit, the first precinct—the second precinct, including Tiot and Clapboardtrees—and the third precinct, or Springfield—first taxed separately this year.

1733. December 19, a highway is laid out from the country road, beginning at the former line between Dedham and Dorchester, and running by the house of Jeremiah Whiting at Green Lodge, and the houses of James and Ebenezer Draper, towards Dedham meeting-house.

1734. A bounty of twenty shillings is offered for each wild cat killed in the town; quite a number of these ferocious animals are soon destroyed, and their haunts broken up by the hunters.

1735. A female was suspended by the church, for the offence of evil speaking, reviling, and reproachful language. A way is laid out through Ragged plain to Green lodge, and another from Sandy valley to the Clapboardtrees. A committee is chosen to attempt the recovery of the School farm, sold by order of the town in 1699. The representative to the general court is again instructed to use his endeavors for a division of the county.

1736. The number of persons taxed in the town this year is 259—in the first parish 129, second parish 78, third parish 52. The Clapboardtree, or third parish, is set off from the second parish and becomes a distinct precinct.

1738. A part of Stoughton is annexed to Dedham, by a decree of the general court, and the Neponset river is made the dividing line between the towns of Dedham and Stoughton. The town of Stoughton was formerly a part of Dorchester, and the boundary line between the latter town and Dedham ranged about one mile west from Neponset river, and included a large portion of the Fowl meadows now belonging to Dedham. Rev. Mr. Dexter preached a century sermon this year, being the one hundredth anniversary since the gathering of the first church; this sermon was published.

1739. Timothy Whiting, Thomas Howe, and others, are set off from Dorchester and annexed, with their estates, to the first precinct in Dedham, agreeably to their petition.

1741. A piece of land, about three quarters of an acre, is laid out on the right of Capt. Ebenezer Woodward and given by him to the South Precinct, for the use of a Burying place forever.

1742. The mode of admitting members into the first church was so far changed, that the candidate for admission might at his own discretion make a public confession, or a more private one before the minister.

1744. In March, a warrant was given to the constable to "warn Joseph Wilson and Isaac Frizell and family, to depart out of this town, for the selectmen do not allow them to continue in the town as inhabitants." Every person coming to reside in the



town was required to be reported to the selectmen. If upon diligent inquiry the selectmen had reason to fear any such person might become a charge to the town, they were empowered to order such to depart within fourteen days, or to give security as the law required. For many years, both before and after this date, this power was often exercised. The number of persons taxed in the first parish is 129, second 81, third 62, fourth or Springfield parish 64.

1748. Deacon Nathaniel Kingsbury made a donation to the town of one hundred pounds, old tenor, the yearly interest of which to be appropriated for the benefit of the School. Mill creek and Dwight's bridges rebuilt, by a grant of money from the court of sessions.

1749. The number of the tribe at the Indian settlement at Natick is 166.

1752. The new or Gregorian style of computing time was adopted in England, and consequently in this country.

1756. Samuel Colburn by his last will gave his estate, consisting of one hundred and thirty-four acres of valuable land, for the support of an Episcopal church in Dedham. A part of Dedham village is now built upon a portion of this estate. An annual income of about seven hundred dollars accrues to the church from the lease of these lands. This income came near being much less than it now is, as appears from the historical discourse of Rev. Mr. Babcock, published in 1845, an appendix to which contains the following anecdote:—"In 1791, the twenty-two acres of land, lying all around us, were offered at public vendue, and a Mr. William Palmer was the auctioneer. It was designed to procure for them an hundred dollars per annum. But the gentleman who had at heart the interest of the Church, perceiving there was a combination among the bidders, not to go higher than seventy-five dollars, but let one bid them off, and 'all share the spoils,' entreated the auctioneer to 'pound on his barrell' (he probably stood on one) till sundown—agreeing to take them himself for fifteen years, at one hundred and thirty-five dollars, and then give them up in an improved condition. The man pounded

on his barrel, till sundown ; none bid above the seventy-five dollars, and the sale was adjourned (happily for us) sine die." By Mr. Colburn's will, this estate was given to Ezekiel Kingsbury and Samuel Richards, in trust, for the benefit of the Church.

1760. A motion made at the May meeting, to see if the town will apply to the general court for power to raise money by lottery for repairing the Long Causeway, is negatived. A highway is laid out across Pond plain, from the Medfield road, towards Clapboardtree meeting-house.

1762. March 18, a committee was chosen to build a powder house, "on a great rock on Aaron Fuller's land near Charles river." The building was not completed until three years after this period.

1763. John Fairbanks asks leave of the selectmen to "remove his house six or eight feet southward, further on to the town's land," so that he may be enabled to repair the back part of said house, which now laps on to captain Metcalf's land, and said Metcalf forbids his going on to his land to repair the same ;—petition granted. A highway is laid out this year from the old country road to John Eaton's, over Ragged plain.

1764. March 5, a premium of one shilling, as heretofore, was voted for each rattlesnake killed in the town the ensuing year. This premium was paid to sundry persons for thirty rattlesnakes killed this year. Cart bridge over Charles river is rebuilt.

1765. The town instructed their representative in the general court, enjoining upon him the duty of resisting the stamp act, for reasons fully set forth ; the right of the town to give such instructions is strongly maintained. Number of houses in the town 239, families 309 ; total number of inhabitants 1919, classed as follows—white people under 16 years 858, over 16 years 1015, negroes and mulattoes 36, Indians 6, French neutrals 4.

1766. December 1, at a meeting called for the purpose of considering the subject of compensating the sufferers for losses sustained by the riots in Boston in August, 1765, a bill for which was pending in the general court, the town voted, "that none

but the villains who perpetrated the same, and their accomplices, are or ought to be accountable therefor;" that "the sufferers have no demand upon the Province in point of justice;" and that it would establish a dangerous precedent to grant the indemnity as a matter of right. But their representative was instructed to give his vote to make up the *real losses*, out of the public treasury, as a testimony of their "unfeigned gratitude to those worthy personages who generously and nobly patronized the British Colonies, by promoting the repeal of the Stamp Act, and by other good offices, who we understand are desirous that compensation should be made." The Monumental Stone, now standing at the corner of Court and High-streets, was raised and consecrated to Liberty's friend. It was originally surmounted by a comely pillar, and a bust of William Pitt, as a testimony of gratitude for his patriotic efforts in behalf of the Colonies. This Stone was replaced by the citizens July 4, 1828. The Pound near the house of Ephraim Colburn was rebuilt of stone. This Pound was not accepted by the town until 1768, in consequence of some difficulty respecting the sum to be paid for building it. The building committee finally abated a few shillings of their first demand, after several hearings before the town, and the difficulty was settled. A donation of 6*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* for the support of schools, was presented to the town by Samuel Dexter, to be added to a like sum given by him the last year.

1767. November 16, the following votes were passed unanimously: "Voted, that this town will in all prudent methods encourage the use of such articles as may be produced or manufactured in the British American Colonies, particularly in this Province, and discourage the use of superfluities imported from abroad—and will not purchase any articles of foreign produce or manufacture, when the same articles may be got of the produce or manufacture of the said Colonies."

"Voted, that this town will strictly adhere to the new Regulations respecting Funerals—that no gloves shall be used on such occasions but such as are manufactured in this Province—that no articles of mourning shall be purchased, except a weed and black gloves for men, and a black bonnet without gauze on it, a black handkerchief, ribband, fan and gloves for women."

These votes having been put into a proper form for subscription, and a suitable introduction prefixed, they were signed by the inhabitants of the town.

1768. May 18, Samuel Dexter, representative in the general court, was instructed to use his endeavors to have an excise laid on spiritous liquors. June 7, Mr. Dexter being "elected into His Majesty's Council," the town voted not to choose a representative to fill his place in the "great and general court," at its present session. September 22, Richard Woodward and Nathaniel Sumner were chosen delegates to the Convention then in session at Faneuil Hall, to consider the critical state of public affairs.

1770. March 5, the town resolved to do their utmost for the encouragement of Domestic Manufactures; they also voted that they would use no foreign Tea, nor allow it to be used in their families, "until such time as, the Duty being first taken off, this Town shall by some future Vote grant an indulgence to drink Tea to such as have not Virtue enough to leave off the Use of it forever." At this time the inhabitants were nearly all agriculturalists.

1772. The town resolved to unite with other towns in pursuing such measures as may tend to an effective redress of grievances, and the establishment of their charter rights and privileges.

1773. June 14, a committee chosen to consider the expediency of erecting a house for the poor, reported in favor of building a work-house, "in that part of the training ground lately improved by lieutenant Richards, deceased." This report was accepted, and the house soon after erected, 32 feet long, 30 wide, two stories high, with a cellar 11 feet by 30. Previous to this time the poor of the town were quartered upon the inhabitants on such terms as could be agreed upon.

1774. September 1, the resolves of the convention recently held in Boston, not to supply the British troops with any articles, except provisions, were unanimously approved by the town.

Five persons were chosen to attend a Convention to be held in this town on the 6th September, to devise means "to prevent the operation of the acts of Parliament lately passed, so destructive of the rights, liberties, and privileges of this people." This convention assembled at the house of Richard Woodward, and was composed of delegates from every town and district in the county of Suffolk, of which Norfolk comprised a part. The first recorded resolution to try the issue with Great Britain, if need be at the point of the sword, was adopted by this convention, and may be found entered on the journal of the earliest Continental Congress. Woodward's house was situated on High-street, opposite the Monumental Stone, and was the birth place of Fisher Ames. September 29, all monies now in the hands of collectors were ordered to be withheld from the Province treasurer, until the determination of the Continental Congress was known. December 5, the town solemnly engaged to conform to all the resolves and recommendations of the Congress, in opposition to their oppressors. The vote to refrain from the use of Tea was renewed, and a large committee appointed to see that this engagement was not violated; if any one should be so devoid of patriotism, his name was to be posted up in the several parishes, and declared an enemy to his country.

1775. January 2, Samuel Dexter and Abner Ellis were chosen delegates to the Provincial Congress to be holden at Cambridge. A subscription is opened for "relieving the distressed poor of the town of Boston, now cruelly suffering in the common cause of America." March 6, the town voted to raise a company of sixty minute-men, to be drilled in the military art three half days in each week, and be ready to act on the shortest notice in case of alarm; they were enlisted for nine months. "Voted, that the selectmen of the town, the committee of correspondence, or the committee of inspection, one of each, or any three of either of said bodies, be, and are hereby empowered to give the Certificate which any teamster conveying to Boston such articles as are prohibited to be supplied to the Troops is required to produce, and to deliver to one or more of the committee of correspondence at Boston." April 19, the news of the battle raging at Lexington reached Dedham about nine o'clock in the morning. Five

companies of infantry were soon mustered here, and an association of veterans who had done service against the French twenty years before. As fast as men enough to form a platoon were gathered, they hastened to the scene of action, leaving others to follow in squads of half a dozen, as they happened to collect together. Capt. Joseph Guild led the minute men; Lieut. George Gould, Capt. William Bullard, Lieut. William Ellis, and Capt. Ebenezer Battle, commanded the other companies. Of those who arrived in season to participate in the action, one, Elias Haven, was killed, and one, Israel Everett, wounded. May 29, it was voted to raise one hundred and twenty additional minute-men in the different parishes, to stand ready to march on an alarm in defence of their country, and to meet on Dedham Common at one o'clock on the following Thursday, to choose their officers. It was also voted to pay the men who were called down and were in the service on former alarms, and to make up the pay of those called into actual service to four shillings per day. Hon. Samuel Dexter signified his willingness to give his trouble and expenses in serving the town all the Congress, for which liberality a vote of thanks is passed. The great gun of king Philip's day is ordered "to be swung;" a person is appointed to take charge of it in the day time, and a guard detailed to protect it by night.

1776. May 27, the town unanimously resolved to support the Continental Congress, should that body see fit to declare the Independence of the Colonies. July 12, seven pounds, in addition to the bounty offered by government, was voted to each volunteer who would enlist in the army; seventy men received this bounty. Fifty-five soldiers were in actual service this year, from the first parish only. Provision was made for the families of the soldiers in distress. Population, about 1700 souls.

1777. February 10, twenty-four pounds, in addition to what Congress and the general court have offered, were granted to each man who enlists for three years, or during the war; forty-nine soldiers received this bounty. October 8, nine hundred pounds were granted to pay the bounty to those who had enlisted. The second parish having raised their quota of men for the Continental service, without the town's bounty or any part of it,

their proportion of the taxes assessed for paying this bounty, is committed to the constable of that precinct to be disposed of as the precinct shall see fit. A quantity of guns were purchased, and ammunition procured and distributed through the town. A committee is appointed to provide for the families of those soldiers who have enlisted in the Continental service. Numerous meetings were held by the town, required by the unsettled state of affairs.

1778. In January, the articles of confederation of the colonies were approved by the town. Ninety men from the first parish alone were employed in the army.

1779. The town instructed their representative in the general court to vote for calling a State Convention, for the purpose of forming a new State constitution. March 1, the town voted to accept of a donation of one thousand dollars, made by Deacon Samuel Damon, the same to be invested, and the interest to be applied to the relief of the poor out of the Poor house, annually. June 26, a committee is chosen from the different precincts, to assist the militia officers in hiring soldiers when called for by government, and also to assist the treasurer in hiring money from time to time for replenishing the town treasury. Complaint is made that the apportionment recently laid upon the several towns by the general court, is unequal, and bears particularly hard upon this town; a committee is chosen to take such measures for redress of grievances as they may deem expedient. July 29, Rev. Jason Haven and Dr. John Sprague were chosen to represent the town in a convention to be holden at Cambridge in September, for the purpose of framing a new Constitution. Eight thousand pounds were assessed, towards defraying the expense of hiring soldiers for the public service.

1780. April 17, the committee for hiring soldiers for the public service, make a report that sixty-six men have enlisted; whereupon the town vote to raise the sum of twelve thousand pounds to pay the expenses of the same. October 12, the sum of thirty-six thousand pounds was ordered to be assessed, for the purchase of beef for the army; also, eight thousand pounds to pay for horses for the use of the army. December 25, another

requisition having been made by the general court, for supplies for the Continental army, the town voted an assessment of sixty-five thousand pounds for procuring beef, in addition to previous assessments. The currency at this time was very much depreciated. A deduction of two shillings in the pound was made to those who promptly paid their taxes. The town gave a unanimous vote of 132, for most of the articles of the State Constitution. Some articles were objected to, and a committee chosen to report amendments to the objectionable parts.

1781. In May, the sum of two thousand pounds, in lawful money, or the exchange in Continental currency, was granted to defray the expenses of hiring soldiers for the army. July 3, captain Daniel Gay was chosen "a committee to repair to Boston tomorrow morning, to call upon our representative to remonstrate to the general court that we think that we are called upon to raise more than our proportion of men to fill up the Continental army, and pray for relief." August 6, the town having voted on the 9th July, to receive of the inhabitants one dollar and seven eighths of a dollar in government bills of the new emission, in stead of a hard dollar, for the taxes assessed in May last, provided the same were paid [by the first of August—the collectors were directed to receive for said taxes nothing but hard money; and in payment for former taxes, the collectors were directed not to receive any paper money, but to receive one dollar in hard money for seventy-five.

1782. Permits are given to sundry persons to sell Bohea and other India Teas by retail for one year, they rendering an account and paying the duties thereon, agreeable to an act of the general court, passed November 1, 1781.

1784. July 17, Dover, comprising the fourth or Springfield parish, is set off from the town, and incorporated into a separate District. A committee is appointed to settle accounts between Dover and Dedham. Paul's bridge over Neponset river is rebuilt. Great difficulties existed at this time in collecting taxes, on account of the fluctuation of the currency.

1785. May 9, a plan was adopted by the town for designating the places for holding future meetings; which was, that the first



precinct have an equal number of meetings as the other two precincts, until it amounts to forty-six meetings; and then the first precinct to have one meeting in addition, on account of surplussage of taxes. This plan to begin in March next.

1786. May 29, it being in contemplation to divide the county of Suffolk, with which Norfolk is united, instructions are given to Nathaniel Kingsbury, representative in the general court, to favor the project, for reasons fully given. Also, to oppose the emission of a new paper currency; but to do what he can to encourage Domestic manufactures, and prevent the introduction of foreign luxuries. In October, the town responded to a communication from the town of Boston, relative to the discontents which resulted in Shay's rebellion this year, promising the most strenuous exertions in support of government.

1787. April 23, Aaron Fuller, town treasurer, received of Daniel Gookins, a woman's riding saddle and a "pinch back watch," value six pounds, in full for said Gookins' improving the Work-house from August 12, 1784, to this day, at which time Gookins quits said house. December 10, Rev. Thomas Thacher and Fisher Ames, Esq. were chosen delegates to the Convention to be held in Boston, for the purpose of adopting the Constitution or frame of government, for the United States. The town voted to discontinue the road leading from Dedham Island over Vine Rock bridge to Roxbury.

1788. Hon. Fisher Ames is chosen to represent the town in the State legislature, and is also chosen to represent the Suffolk district in the first Congress. Norfolk was a part of this district. Mr. Ames held his seat in Congress for eight years; he died July 4, 1808.

1789. May 11, a committee chosen to ascertain the town's claim to the Mother Brook stream and land adjoining, formerly granted to Nathaniel Whiting and James Draper, reported, that Messrs. Joseph Whiting, jr. Paul, Moses, and Aaron Whiting, have consented to give the town six pounds for an acquittance of the town's claim to said stream, and advise a compliance with these terms. This report was accepted, and the town treasurer

directed to give a quitclaim in behalf of the town, on receipt of the money.

1790. October 4, it was voted, that the manner of calling town meetings for the future, be by posting up a copy of the warrant in the several meeting-houses in the town. The warrant to be issued by the selectmen and directed to such person as they shall appoint, who is to make due return of such warning, as the law directs. The practice of notifying town meetings heretofore had been, by the selectmen's causing a copy of their warrant to be posted up in each parish. December 24, a large number of families and individuals, who had lately come to abide in the town, were warned by order of the selectmen to depart within fifteen days, they not having obtained the town's consent to reside here. The number of persons so warned to depart at this time exceeded one hundred.

1791. May 9, a new bridge, ten feet wider than the old one, is directed to be built over Mill creek.

1792. The small pox is prevalent in the town ; a town meeting is called, and measures adopted for a general inoculation of the inhabitants.

1793. June 20, the County of Norfolk was established, and Dedham became the shire town. The method of admitting members in the first church was altered, under Rev. Mr. Haven's ministry, requiring the candidate to be propounded to the congregation by the minister ; if no objection was made within fourteen days, he was admitted. The church covenant and creed were altered at the same time. Tate and Brady's version of Psalms exchanged for those of Dr. Watts, in this church.

1794. The government having made a requisition for soldiers, the town offer a bounty of two dollars to such as may volunteer as minute-men, and to all who may be called into actual service, ten dollars per month, in addition to the Continental pay, with ten dollars pay in advance. September 17, a map of the town was ordered to be drawn. An offer having been made by persons not residents of the town, to build one half of Vine Rock bridge, a committee was chosen to build the other half ; the bridge

to be built within two months. The legislature granted to the rector, officers, wardens and vestry of the Episcopal church in this town, power to lease the land belonging to said church.

1796. The first newspaper established here ; it was called the "Columbian Minerva." Leave was given to Calvin Whiting to conduct water by pipes through the public roads in the first precinct.

1797. The Natick tribe of Indians is reduced to twenty in number. This tribe was the first of the Natives upon whom the experiment of civilization was attempted with any success. It partially succeeded through the efforts of reverend John Eliot, who, in 1651, gathered them into a village at Natick, hence their name. He translated the Bible into their own language, taught them the doctrines of the christian religion, and instructed them in the arts of civilization, in which they made great progress. But the traits peculiar to the Indian character, their roving disposition and natural indolence, caused them again to degenerate, and finally to follow in the downward course marked out for their race. The tribe became wholly extinct previous to 1826.

1798. April meeting, it was voted to accept of the road leading from the main road to the house of Thaddeus Mason, provided the town is at no expense for the land for said road or fencing the same. This road leads from High-street, opposite the house of Dr. J. Stimson, southerly towards Wigwam pond.

1799. The money granted for the support of schools to be divided by the number of scholars in each district, between the ages of five and sixteen ; the time of taking the ages of children this year to be on the 25th of December.

1800. February 22, a Eulogy was delivered before the inhabitants, by Rev. Thomas Thacher, and other appropriate services had, "in commemoration of the illustrious George Washington," pursuant to a vote of the town of February 10.

1801. In January, a fire engine, purchased by the voluntary subscription of individuals, was presented to the town for the use of the inhabitants. This engine was located at the upper village

in the first parish, and a company of twelve men appointed to take charge of the same. April 1, letters are advertised as remaining in the post-office in this town for people in the towns of Dedham, Medway, Bellingham, Medfield, Dover, Foxborough, Walpole, Hopkinton, Sharon, Canton, Franklin, Kittery, Stoughton, Sherburne, and Cohasset.

1802. A second fire engine, purchased by subscription of individuals, was presented to the town, and a company of eighteen men were attached to the same. This engine was called the Good-Intent, and located in Dedham village. Turnpike road from Dedham to Boston commenced.

1806. October 20, the Union light infantry, commanded by captain Jacob Clark, was presented with a standard by the citizens, through the hands of Hon. Fisher Ames. On the same day, in addition to the light infantry, a troop of cavalry, under captain Baker, and the three militia companies belonging to the town, paraded for review and inspection, under major Ellis. A highway is established from East-street, near Dwight's bridge, to Mill village.

1807. April 6, a vote of thanks was passed to the gentleman, who, through the hands of Rev. Thomas Thacher, has from 1792 to the present time, made an annual donation to the town for the relief of the sick and indigent; the aggregate amount so received and distributed is \$157,25. The donor was the honorable Samuel Dexter of Mendon, formerly a resident in this town, and one of its liberal benefactors. Paul's bridge over Neponset river rebuilt; an agreement is entered into with the town of Milton for supporting the same.

1808. May 2, rules and regulations for the Work-house adopted. December 13, a meeting was held to see if the town will offer any encouragement to the men called for by government; it was voted, to make up the pay of each soldier to twelve dollars a month from the time they are called into actual service, and a bounty of two dollars is granted to each volunteer. The first cotton factory erected here by the Norfolk cotton manufacturing company. The way from Medfield road to Clapboardtrees meet-

ing-house was established as a public highway. Also, a highway from Paul's bridge across Low plain to Mill village.

1809. September 4, measures are taken by the town for a general inoculation of the inhabitants for the kine pox, as a preventive of the small pox.

1811. An article being inserted in the warrant for March meeting, to see if the town will direct their treasurer to receive of their collector a five dollar bill received by him for taxes, which bill is now uncurrent, it was decided to receive said bill, provided the collector would make oath that he received the same for taxes, and the treasurer was directed to dispose of it to the best advantage.

1812. May 4, a donation of \$170, given to the town by the last will of Hon. Samuel Dexter, a native of Dedham, as a fund, the annual interest of which to be added to the income of their other school money for the support of Schools, was accepted, and the treasurer directed to loan out said money and take such security as the selectmen shall approve. In making this bequest, Mr. Dexter suggests that certain sums formerly appropriated for the same purpose, both principal and interest of which were expended during the revolution in hiring soldiers, should be replaced by the town. A communication having been received from the town of Roxbury, relative to the removal of the shire town to that place, Messrs. James Richardson, Erastus Worthington, and Nathaniel Ames, were appointed a committee to oppose the project. July 20, the town granted such additional sums to the militia men who may be drafted into the public service, as will make their monthly pay amount to fifteen dollars; the selectmen were directed to furnish each detached soldier with ball cartridges, as required by the commander-in-chief, if they cannot be obtained from the "public ordinances." Decided resolutions were adopted to support the government in the existing war with Great Britain. Soldiers for the army were here recruited and drilled.

1813. November 29, a question having arisen as to the legality of previous town meetings, the selectmen were directed to petition the legislature to confirm the acts and doings of the town

at their several meetings, notwithstanding the omission of posting up copies of the warrants for such meetings at the Episcopalian and Baptist meeting houses for public worship, as required by the vote of the town, October 4, 1790.

1815. March 6, an action having been brought by John S. Williams, Esq. against the selectmen, for rejecting his vote for a member of Congress in 1812, the amount of twenty dollars paid by them in defending said action was refunded by vote of the town. April 3, the light infantry company having been detached for a tour of military duty at South Boston, the pay of each member was made up to sixteen dollars per month; the extra dollar being for wear and damage to their uniform. In October, the first division Massachusetts militia, commanded by major general Crane, mustered at Low plain in this town, for review and inspection.

1816. April 1, the selectmen were directed to collect all such books, pamphlets, statutes, and ancient records, as belong to the town, and provide a convenient place for their safe keeping, so that they may be accessible to the inhabitants. A highway is established from the old Hartford road to Abner Ellis' saw mill, in the west parish.

1817. An order of notice having been received from the general court, concerning the petition of Samuel H. Deane and others, for a separation of the town, by setting off the second and third parishes as a distinct town, the town refused their consent to such separation, by a vote of 78 to 27, and instructed their representative to oppose it in the general court. The school money granted by the town this year to be divided as follows:— Each district to receive one half they pay for the use of schools, the other half of the grant according to the number of scholars. The stone Jail erected.

1818. April 6, the number of persons in the Work-house is twenty-six; of whom one is aged 85 years, one 87 years, and one, Moll Saunders, 96 years. The average expense of each person in said house is \$1.25 per week.

1819. Hon. Edward Dowse, of this town, was chosen representative to Congress from Norfolk district; he took his seat in that body in December, and resigned it at the close of the session. October 7, this evening the house of Lemuel Smith, on South plain, was struck by lightning, and a son of George Hawkins instantly killed by the electric fluid; two other children in bed with him were injured, but recovered.

1820. January 13, occurred "an affair of honor," between a painter and a barber, who boarded together in the village; it is remarkable only from its ludicrous result. The painter considering himself to have been most egregiously insulted by the barber, was resolved to have satisfaction. A challenge to mortal combat followed, which was accepted by his opponent. The parties met about sunset in a lane near by, eight paces were measured off by the seconds, and the combatants took their stations. At the word, "fire," the painter's pistol was promptly discharged, which so terrified his antagonist that he fell in a swoon, and in falling discharged his pistol at random. He was taken up and carried into an adjoining shop. The painter believing he had killed his antagonist, gave one "long lingering look," and immediately fled. Being favored by the darkness of twilight, he eluded the pursuit of some friends who almost instantly followed him with money to assist his escape, but such was his speed he could not be overtaken. The barber soon recovered from his fright, when it was discovered that it was a mock battle, contrived by the seconds for their own amusement, who had charged the pistols with powder only. The month of January was remarkable for the severity of the cold, which continued until the 6th of February; there were several heavy falls of snow during that time, but not a single hour of snow-melting weather. February 22, the firing of the cannon in Boston this morning, in honor of Washington's birth day, occasioned such a jarring of the buildings here as to be sensibly felt by those within. August 21, the vote for revising the State Constitution was yeas 136, nays 8; there are about four hundred voters in the town. October 16, James Richardson, John Endicott, and William Ellis, were chosen delegates to the convention for revising the State Constitution.

1821. The funds accruing from the lands granted in 1659, for the support of a "teaching church officer" in the town, were confirmed to the first church and society, under the pastoral charge of Rev. Dr. Lamson, by the Supreme Judicial Court, after a full investigation of the subject. The annual income derived from these funds is about ten hundred dollars. At the April meeting, the road in Dedham village known as Centre-street, was made a town way. This street is lined with buildings on both sides, and had been used as a public highway for many years. It is now established as such, thirty-three feet wide, on the southerly side of a straight line drawn from a stake in the ground four feet from a button wood tree near the post-office, southwesterly to an elm tree on Court-street, sixty-two rods. April 17, there was a severe snow storm, accompanied by high winds from the northeast. There fell about eighteen inches of snow, being the greatest quantity for the season that has been known for forty years. An adjourned meeting of the State legislature was to convene at Boston on the 18th April, but the severity of the storm on the preceding day had rendered the roads almost impassable, and prevented a sufficient number of the members of the House from assembling to constitute a quorum for transacting business. August 17, the United States' Cadets, from West Point, 230 in number, under command of major Worth, visited this town on their homeward march from a military tour to Boston. September 21, the body of Miss Deborah Newman, who had wandered from her boarding house two or three days previous in a state of insanity, was found drowned in the Mill creek. September 26, Solomon Phipps of Charlestown, in a state of insanity put a period to his existence by cutting his throat with a razor, at the house of Mr. E. Trescott.

1822. April 1, agents were appointed by the town, with instructions to oppose the establishment of a road or roads over Dedham Island, which subject is now pending before the court of sessions. The Proprietor's Records, (so called) and the ancient records of the town, were transferred from the care of Joseph Metcalf and deposited with the town clerk. A Pound is established in the first parish. The town is indicted for not keeping a grammar school. June 3, George, son of captain Elisha



McIntosh, about eight years of age, was accidentally drowned while bathing in Charles river. Doctor Nathaniel Ames, brother of Hon. Fisher Ames, died July 21, aged eighty-two years.

1823. An addition is made to the Work-house, for the better comfort and safe keeping of the insane. April 13, Watts' hymns exchanged for Sewall's collection, in the first parish meeting house. July 23, a smart shock of an earthquake was felt here at two minutes before seven o'clock in the morning; it was accompanied by a low rumbling noise, and continued about thirty seconds. It appeared to come from the southward and pass off towards the north. August 25, the Boston "City Guards," pitched their tents near Wigwam pond, on a tour of camp duty for a few days. November 9, a man named William Babson, was found dead in the woods near the upper village, adjacent to the Hartford turnpike.

1824. A difficulty of long standing having existed between the town and the Dedham manufacturing company, respecting the overflowing the road near the Mother Brook bridge, the subject was finally submitted to referees for adjustment; who decided that the company pay to the town the sum of \$224,93, including the cost of reference, which award was accepted November 1. August 23, arrival of the "Nation's Guest." General Lafayette arrived here at half past ten o'clock in the evening, and stopped at Alden's hotel. The loud and repeated cheerings from the assembled citizens, who had continued to collect through the day in expectation of his arrival,—the salute of the artillery, the ringing of bells, and the brilliant illumination of the houses in the village—gave some faint evidence of the satisfaction experienced by all on the arrival among us of this distinguished Revolutionary Chief—this friend of America in her time of need, and of Liberty throughout the world. He tarried here but one hour, during which time hundreds of ladies and gentlemen had the gratification of shaking hands with the General; and had he tarried until morning, the time would have been too short to gratify all who aspired to that honor. General Lafayette is a remarkably tall, majestic looking man, about sixty-eight years of age, and was dressed in a plain citizens dress. He was accom-

panied by his son, and one or two other French gentlemen of his household. At half past eleven he entered his carriage, and was again greeted with the three times three cheers of the citizens, and escorted by a cavalcade of about one hundred horsemen to the seat of Governor Eustis in Roxbury, where he spent the night. August 24, the town was nearly deserted by the inhabitants; old and young hastened to Boston, to witness the reception of the "Nation's Guest" in that city. A cavalcade of two thousand mounted horsemen escorted the General from the seat of Governor Eustis to the city line, where he was received by the mayor and aldermen, and escorted through the city by the light infantry companies of the metropolis, and accompanied by thousands of citizens on horses and in carriages, under the direction of marshals, to the common. The children of the primary schools were here arranged in lines, through which the General passed. He was afterwards received at the State House by the State authorities, and partook of a public dinner at the Exchange. Every street through which he passed was decorated with flags and triumphal arches—every building was filled with the beauty and taste of the city—every heart responded to the joyous "WELCOME," which greeted the war-worn veteran from every quarter. Similar manifestations of joy and gratitude were exhibited by the people in all parts of the Union which he visited. Such was the reception awarded to the gallant Chief from a foreign land, who periled life and fortune in our behalf, and who, nearly half a century before, had borne so conspicuous a part in the great struggle of this country for Independence. Its sublime effect will not be lost upon the world.

1825. March 7, the selectmen were directed to post common tipplers. July 4, corner stone of the new court house laid with much ceremony. September 5, the number of votes in favor of and against the establishment of the contemplated roads over Dedham Island, were ordered to be entered upon the records; on the question being put to the town, "Shall the roads as laid out by the selectmen on and over Dedham Island be accepted?" it was decided in the negative, 161 to 156. October 31, agents were again appointed by the town to oppose the granting of the said roads, which subject is still pending before the court of ses-

sions. August 26, the Quincy light infantry, commanded by captain Brigham, visited this place on a tour of camp duty.

1826. April 3, the selectmen were directed to have such part of their annual report as relates to the poor, printed and circulated for the information of the town. October 12, muster at Low plain, of the troops comprising the first division Massachusetts militia, commanded by major general Crane. November 6, the agents of the town were instructed to oppose the establishment of the Island road, so long as there shall be any attempt to impose the burden of making it upon the town.

1827. February 20, the new Court House was dedicated by an address from chief justice Parker. The court house is built of hewn white granite, brought from a quarry eight miles west of it; Messrs. Damon and Bates master builders; Solomon Willard, architect—cost \$30,000. Mr. Worthington in his history of Dedham, published this year, remarks—"I have examined the criminal docket in this county for twenty years past; I do not find that any person, an inhabitant of Dedham, has during that time been convicted of any crime in the supreme court, court of sessions, or court of common pleas." April 2, two thousand dollars were granted for repair of highways; each tax payer to have the privilege of working out his tax as heretofore, or, as an equivalent, to pay two thirds of the amount assessed in money.

1828. March 3, three-fourths of the highway tax to be paid in money, instead of two-thirds, as last year. The Island road having been granted by the court of sessions, a new road to connect with it, from Needham road, is ordered to be made. November 3, a town meeting is notified to be holden in the south parish, at one o'clock in the afternoon—refused admittance to the meeting-house for transacting town business—adjourned to meet at the old court house in the first parish, at four o'clock in the afternoon of same day. November 17, a special town meeting was held, when it was voted to build a Town House.

1829. Town House erected; cost, including \$118,90 for services of building committee, \$2206,72. It is located in the first parish.

1830. Population of the town 3057. A highway leading from High-street, opposite the Monumental Stone, across Charles river to Dedham Island, was built this year.

1831. December 12, fifteen hundred dollars were granted for the purchase of fire engines, and improvement of the fire department, which sum to be apportioned in the several districts, according to their taxes. Dedham Institution for Savings incorporated. At the May meeting, the vote for a proposed amendment of the State Constitution, changing the commencement of the political year from the last Wednesday in May to the first Wednesday in January, was for the amendment 29, against it 135.

1832. The town divided into seven districts, and a surveyor of highways appointed in each, for the purpose of keeping them in repair. A Town Farm of sixty-three acres, situated in the west parish, was purchased of Jesse Warren the last year and is appropriated for the poor; Abner Atherton is placed in charge of the establishment. Cost of land and buildings about five thousand dollars.

1833. April 1, under a recent act of the legislature, the town voted to refund to engine-men, yearly, an amount equal to their poll taxes. A branch Railroad, to connect with the Boston and Providence Railroad at Low plain, was built this year. The road from High-street, opposite the Phoenix House, running southwesterly in a bow line to the Norfolk and Bristol turnpike, was built and established this year as a town way. It is known as Bow-street, and is laid out forty feet wide, except from High-street to School-street, through lands of Mason Richards and Jesse Wheaton, where it is laid out thirty-five feet in width. In November, the vote for the proposed amendment of the State Constitution in relation to the third article of the Bill of Rights, were, in favor of amendment 245, against 38.

1834. April 7, the selectmen having at a previous meeting been empowered to sell the old Work-house, reported, "that not being able at present to ascertain the manner the town came in possession of the land where the old Poor-house now stands, they therefore recommend that it be let for the present."

1835. March 30, the new road in the first parish, leading from Court-street past the burial ground westerly to High-street, was established, and named "Village Avenue," by vote of the town. November 9, the town ordered, that school children be enumerated from four to sixteen years of age.

1836. "The Poor House, together with the land and appurtenances thereto belonging," was sold to Reuben Richards for \$1050, and a deed executed to that effect, by the selectmen. September 21, the second centennial anniversary of the incorporation of the town, was celebrated by appropriate services, and an historical address was delivered before the citizens by Samuel F. Haven, Esq. a descendant of reverend Jason Haven. This address was published by vote of the town. Centennial discourses were delivered before the congregational societies in the second and third parishes, this year, by their respective pastors. Town expenses for the year ending March 7, exclusive of highway tax, are \$7081,06. Silk factory erected.

1837. There were manufactured in the town this year, 7,135 pairs of boots, and 18,722 pairs of shoes, valued at \$32,483; value of silk goods manufactured, \$10,000; of straw bonnets, \$20,000; value of chairs and cabinet ware manufactured, \$21,250; of marble paper and enamelled cards, \$18,000. The town's share of surplus revenue was received from government, and funded.

1838. The expenses of the town for the year ending March 4, exclusive of highway tax, are \$7965,80. By the auditors' report on treasurer's accounts, it appears that the town is free from debt, and is possessed of the following articles of property, viz: "nine guns, with cartridge boxes and bayonet belts, 22 knapsacks, 14 dictionaries, 25 testaments, 30 small grammars, 8 spelling books, 1 atlas, 1 set money scales and weights, 1 pair bullet moulds." November 18, the second centennial anniversary of the gathering of the first church in Dedham. A history of said church was delivered on the occasion, by Rev. Dr. Lamson, its pastor, which history was subsequently published, by vote of the society. At the April meeting, the limits of the several School Districts in the town were defined, and entered upon the records.

1839. March 4, the road, sometimes called Common-street, leading from Dwight's bridge westwardly past the great common, on the south side, to the Dover road, by vote of the town is hereafter to be designated "High-street," the name originally given to it by the first settlers. April 1, the selectmen were authorized to appoint some suitable person to examine the ancient Records of the town, "and transcribe therefrom into a separate book, every vote and order found therein, that may now or hereafter operate to affect the Rights and Interest either of the town or individuals;" and they were also "to provide that the said Ancient Records shall be rebound in a fit, decent and convenient manner." James Richardson, Esq. was employed, and the work was accomplished.

1840. April 6, a Pound is established in the South parish.

1841. August 9, rules and regulations for the government of the Alms-house are established. Vine Rock bridge, over Charles river, rebuilt of granite, with five arches; Shubael Bills, builder; cost, \$3000. This bridge was built with a portion of the town's share of the surplus revenue received from government in 1837.

1843. A stone bridge is built over Charles river, near Powder House rock, at or near the spot called the Key by the first settlers. The bridge has four arches, and was built by Messrs, Greenwood and Fuller; cost \$2181. A portion of the government surplus revenue is invested in this bridge. The valuation and tax book for the current year, as made out by the assessors, was printed for the use of the town. It contained the names of all residents and non-residents liable to pay taxes to the town, with the amount and kind of property for which they were assessed.

1845. April 7, voted, that the owners of dogs running at large in the town, pay two dollars into the town treasury, for a license for each dog; the treasurer is authorized to give a license to such owner, on receipt of the money. This act having been approved by the Court of Common Pleas, is established as a By-law of the town. The sum to be paid for a license was subsequently reduced by the town to one dollar. The number of Polls taxed this year is 954.

1846. January 15, the new Episcopal church is consecrated ; it is located on Court-street, and, with the furniture, cost about \$7000. A neat and substantial iron fence, from the foundry of Benjamin H. Tubbs of West Dedham, is substituted for the wooden one around the court house square ; cost of fence about \$1500. April 6, leave was granted by the town to Abiathar Richards, to build and occupy an ice-house at the Landing-place on Charles river, near the house of John Bullard. The selectmen were instructed to prosecute all violations of the license law for regulating the sale of spiritous liquors, that may come to their knowledge. Two or three complaints only were made under these instructions. Voted, that the warrants for notifying Town meetings be published in the several newspapers printed in the town, provided the same be done without expense to the town. In December, a Post-office is established at South Dedham. The number of Dog licenses issued this year is ninety-six.

1847. March 24, the body of a man was found drowned in Charles river, near Metcalf's landing, supposed to have lain in the water several months, name unknown. April 5, the annual grant for support of schools was raised to five thousand dollars. The School money to be apportioned in the several districts as follows :—one hundred dollars of the grant to each district ; the remainder to be divided in the districts, one half by the amount of taxes paid in each, and one half by the number of scholars. Twelve hundred dollars were granted for purchase of land and erection of engine houses, one in the upper village in the first parish, and one in the south parish.

## EXTRACTS FROM THE RECORDS.

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### COVENANT OF THE FIRST SETTLERS.

1st. We whose names are hereunto subscribed do in the fear and reverence of our Almighty God mutually and generally promise amongst ourselves and each to other, to profess and practice one truth according to that most perfect rule the foundation thereof is everlasting life.

2d. That we shall by all means labor to keep off from us all such as are contrary minded; and receive only such unto us as may probably be of one heart with us, as that we either know or may be well and truly informed to walk in a peaceable conversation with all meekness of spirit to the edification of each other in the knowledge and faith of the Lord Jesus; and to the mutual encouragement unto all temporal comforts in all things seeking the good of each other out of all which may be derived from peace.

3d. That if at any time difference shall arise between parties of our said Town, that then such party or parties shall presently refer all such difference unto some one, two or three others of our said society to be fully accorded and determined without any further delay, if it possibly may be.

4th. That every man that now, or at any time hereafter shall have lots in our said Town shall pay his share in all such rates of money and charges as shall be imposed upon him rateably in proportion with other men: as also become freely subservient to all such laws and constitutions as shall be necessarily had or made now or at any time hereafter from this day forward, as well for loving and comfortable society in our said Town, as also



for the prosperous and thriving condition of our said fellowship ; especially respecting the fear of God in which we desire to begin and continue, whatsoever we shall by his loving favor take in hand.

5th. And for the better manifestation of our true resolution herein, every man so received to subscribe hereunto his name, thereby obliging both himself and his successors after him forever as we have done.

[NOTE. There are one hundred and twenty-four names appended to this Covenant in the Records. There are no dates attached to the names ; the signatures of the greater portion of them do not appear to be in the hand writing of the several persons, and are probably copied from the original.]

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#### THE PETITION FOR INCORPORATION.

1. May it please this Honored Court to ratify to your humble petitioners your grant formerly made of a plantation above the falls, that we may possess all that land, which is left out of all former grants upon that side of Charles River, and upon the other side five miles square. To have and enjoy all those lands, meadows, woods and other grounds, together with all the waters and other benefits whatsoever now being or that may be within the compass of the aforesaid limits, to us with our associates and our assigns forever.

2. To be freed from all country charges for four years, and military exercises to be only in our own Town, except some extraordinary occasion require it.

3. That such distribution or allotment of lands, meadows, woods, &c. within our said limits as are done and performed by the grantees, their successors, or such as shall be deputed thereunto, shall and may stand for good assurance unto the several possessors thereof and their assigns forever.

4. That we may have countenance from this Honorable Court for the well ordering of the manage of our society according to the best rules ; and to that purpose to assign unto us a Constable that may regard peace and truth.

5. To distinguish our town by the name of Contentment, or otherwise what you shall please.

6. And lastly, we intreat such other helps as your wisdom shall know best in favor to grant unto us, for our well improving of what we are thus intrusted with, all unto our particular but especially unto the general good of this whole locate public in succeeding times.

Subscribed by all that have underwritten in Covenant at present.

Edward Alleyn,	Nicholas Phillips,
Abraham Shaw,	John Gay,
Samuel Morse,	Thomas Bártlett,
Philemon Dalton,	Francis Austin,
Ezekiel Hollaman,	John Rogers,
John Kingsbury,	Joseph Shaw,
John Coolidge,	William Bearstowe,
Richard Everett,	John Dwight,
John Hayward,	Robert Feke,
Lambert Genere,	Thomas Hastings,
Ralph Shepard,	John Huggin.

[NOTE. These names are not attached to the copy of the Petition found at the commencement of the first volume of the records, but are entered on a subsequent page as being the persons (except the three last named) who assembled on "the 6th of the 7th month, called September, 1636," and on that day subscribed their names to the above; "the copy of which petition, (says the record,) is in the beginning of this Booke, as also the Court order upon the same." It is also stated in the record of same date, that after the meeting was dissolved, "Mr. Robert Feke came and subscribed his name unto the said petition; and Thomas Hastings and John Huggin did the like at Boston; so that all the names of those which are admitted unto our Society are subscribed thereunto." Another copy of this petition is entered upon page 384 of the 6th volume of town records, but for what purpose does not appear. It is deemed proper to remark here, that the name of Richard Everett is spelt in different ways in the records, as "Evred," "Everard," and "Evrit;" it is here printed as it is now generally written by his descendants, among whom is Edward Everett, President of Harvard University, and late Governor of Massachusetts.]

## GRANT OF THE GENERAL COURT.

"The tenth of the seventh month, 1636, the above Petition was published in a full General Court, and granted as followeth, Viz:

1. That the plantation shall have three years immunity from public charges.
2. That the town shall bear the name of Dedham.
3. All the rest of the petition fully granted by a general vote freely and cheerfully without any exception at all. Whereupon this short order was drawn up and recorded by the Secretary, Mr. Bradstreet.

Ordered, that the plantation to be settled above Charles River shall have three years immunity from public charges as Concord had, to be accounted from the first of May next, and the name of the said plantation is to be Dedham.

To enjoy all that land on the Easterly and Southerly side of Charles River not formerly granted unto any Town or particular person, and also to have five miles square on the other side of the River.

This draught or tract of our plantation being presented unto the Court General after publishing our petition, it pleased the said Court by a full consent to grant our said Town of Dedham to extend every way according to the same form therein delineated, without any contraction at all made of or concerning the same, being viewed by the whole Court."

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DOMESTIC MANUFACTURES—USE OF FOREIGN  
TEA FORBIDDEN.

March 5, 1770. "On a motion made and seconded, the Town taking into serious consideration the great distress to which the People are reduced, by means of the oppressive Revenue Acts, and the Troops sent to enforce obedience to the same, and being desirous of contributing all in their power to restore and preserve their Liberties, according to the Laudable Example of many other Towns in the Province, and being deeply sensible that the Patriotic Resolutions of the Merchants and Traders not to import

goods and merchandize from Great Britain—ought to be seconded by such as have usually been purchasers of such Goods and Merchandize,

Came to the following Votes :

Voted, nem. con. That the Town will do their utmost to encourage the Produce and Manufacture of all such articles as have formerly been imported from Great Britain.

Voted, nem. con. That we will not directly or indirectly have any commerce or dealings with those few Traders, lists of whom are posted up among us, who have had so little regard to the good of their country as to oppose and counteract the noble exertions of the Body of Merchants and Traders of the Province, and of the whole Continent.

Voted, nem. con. That as the Duty on Tea furnishes so large a sum towards the maintainance and support of an almost innumerable multitude who live upon the fruits of the honest Industry of the Inhabitants, from the odious Commissioners of the Customs down to the Dirty Informers that are employed by them, therefore we will not make use of any foreign Tea, nor allow the consumption of it in our respective families, till such time as, the duty being first taken off, this town shall by some future Vote grant an Indulgence to such persons to drink Tea as have not Virtue enough to leave off the Use of it forever.

Voted, that Messrs. Samuel Damon, Richard Woodward, Geo. Talbot, Eliphalet Baker and Dea. Ralph Day, be a Committee of Observation, to see that the foregoing Votes be complied with."

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#### REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE THAT HIRED SOLDIERS IN 1780.

##### March Meeting, 1780—

The Committee chosen to hire men to go into the public service the last year for the Town, report their account in the following manner, which is accepted and allowed by the Town, viz :

"Hired fifteen men to do duty in the Continental army	
for nine months, at 400 <i>l</i> . . . . .	£6750,00
ditto to seven men to do duty at Rhode Island . .	882,00

Hired three men to do duty at Rhode Island . . . . .	108,00
ditto to 5 men to do duty at Boston at 27 $\frac{1}{2}$ . . . . .	135,00
ditto to 11 men to do duty at Castle Island at 18 $\frac{1}{2}$ . . . . .	180,00
ditto to 7 men to do duty at Boston at 18 $\frac{1}{2}$ . . . . .	126,00
ditto to eighteen men to do duty in the Continental army at 246 $\frac{1}{2}$ . . . . .	4428,00
	<hr/>
	£12609,00

Voted, to assess the Polls and Estates in the Town the sum of Twelve thousand pounds to defray the charges of the Town for the hire of soldiers into the public service the last and present year."

#### COMPENSATION FOR HORSES, IN 1780.

October 12, 1780,—being the first Town Meeting under the new Constitution. "Then took into consideration the granting of money to sundry persons who sold their horses to the selectmen for the use of the army, agreeable to an order of Court.

	£.	s.
Granted to Mr. Ebenezer Shepard for his horse, . . . .	772	10
" to Ebenezer Battle, Esq. for ditto . . . .	350	00
" to Dea. Isaac Bullard for ditto . . . .	900	00
" Mr. Thomas Ockinton for ditto . . . .	600	00
" Mr. Samuel Damon for ditto . . . .	1200	00
" Mr. Joseph Swan for ditto . . . .	450	00
" Mr. Nathan Ellis for ditto . . . .	900	00
" Mr. John Ellis for ditto . . . .	900	00
" Mr. Oliver Morse for ditto . . . .	909	00
" Mr. Ebenezer Newell for ditto . . . .	900	00

Granted Eight thousand pounds to pay for the Horses purchased for the use of the army, to be assessed on the polls and estates within the Town."

#### SUPPLIES FOR THE CONTINENTAL ARMY.

The following Items from the Records will serve to show the manner in which Supplies were collected for the Army in 1781-2,

and give some idea of the value of the Continental Currency at that period :

1781.		£.	s.	d.	
Dec. 24,	Paid Eleazer Allen for eight shirts for the army . . .	4	8	0	
"	John Wight for five shirts for the army . . .	2	15	0	
"	John Jones, Esq. for three stockings for the army	0	18	0	
"	James Draper for a pair of stockings for the army	2	4	0	
"	Dea. Joseph Haven for 2 pr. stockings for do.	0	12	0	
"	Joseph Draper for a pair of stockings for do.	0	6	9	
"	John Battle for four pair stockings and one dollar in cash for the use of the army . . . . .	2	8	0	
"	Israel Fairbanks for a shirt for the army . . .	0	11	0	
"	Jeremiah Bacon for cash to purchase blankets	3	1	4	
1782.					
January 2	" Dea. Ichabod Gay for 12 1-2 days hiring soldiers	1	17	6	
"	Stephen Whiting in part for shoes for the army	6	0	0	
"	Capt. David Fales for a pair of stockings for do.	0	6	0	
"	widow Desire Eaton for 2 pair stockings	do.	0	12	0
"	Thomas Eaton for a pair of stockings	do.	0	6	0
"	Dr. Ebenezer Richards, a pair of stockings	do.	0	6	0
"	John Baker for two shirts	do.	1	2	0
"	William Richards for one pair stockings	do.	0	6	0
"	William Smith for one shirt	do.	0	11	0
22	" Joseph Wight for two pair stockings	do.	0	12	0
"	Daniel Fisher for three pair stockings	do.	0	18	0
"	Moses Mason for eight shirts	do.	4	4	0
Feb. 18	" Abiathar Richards for purchasing horses and bridles and shoeing horses for Continental service	1	5	0	
"	Capt. Daniel Fisher for time and expenses pur- chasing beef for the use of the army . . .	5	2	0	
"	Timothy Allen for a pair of stockings	do.	0	6	0
25	" John Hawes for sixteen pairs shoes	do.	8	0	0
"	Ebenezer Smith for sixteen pairs shoes	do.	8	0	0
"	Ebenezer Fisher 6 pair stockings & 5 shirts	do.	4	6	0
"	Mrs. Elizabeth Gay for a pair of stockings	do.	0	6	0
"	Joseph Dean for two shirts	do.	1	0	0
"	Benjamin Herring for three pair stockings	do.	0	18	0
"	Mary Gay for one pair stockings	do.	0	6	0
"	Stephen Whiting for shirts and stockings	do.	4	6	0
"	Col. Ebenezer Battle for 5 pair stockings	do.	1	10	0
"	widow Anna Fairbanks for 2 pair stockings	do.	0	12	0
"	Ebenezer Gay 2 pair stockings and 1 blanket	do.	1	10	0
"	Henry Jones for sixteen pair shoes	do.	8	0	0
"	Dea. William Avery for 8 blankets 8 shirts and 6 pair stockings for the army . . . . .	13	0	0	
"	Capt. Ebenezer Battle 16 pair shoes for the army	8	0	0	
"	Maj. George Gould for 4 shirts, 8 blankets, 13 pr. stockings, and procuring clothing for army	14	13	7	
"	Ebenezer Newell for 4 blankets, and trouble in procuring clothing for the army . . . . .	6	19	0	
"	Nathaniel Sumner, Esq. 7 blankets, 16 shirts, 16 pair stockings & Courts allowance for trouble	20	13	7	
"	Israel Everett 19 1-2 days service and expenses in hiring soldiers . . . . .	3	1	0	
"	Ichabod Gay 9 shirts and 7 blankets for army	10	16	9	

## INSTRUCTIONS TO REPRESENTATIVE.

Among the Instructions of the Town to their representative in the General Court, in May, 1786, are the following:

## THE ORDER OF LAWYERS.

"We are not inattentive to the almost universally prevailing complaints against the practice of the order of lawyers; and many of us too sensibly feel the effects of their unreasonable and extravagant exactions; we think their practices pernicious, and their mode unconstitutional. You will therefore endeavor, that such regulations be introduced into our Courts of Law and that such restraints be laid on the order of lawyers, as that we may have recourse to the Laws and find our security and not our ruin in them. If upon a fair discussion and mature deliberation, such a measure should appear impracticable, you are to endeavor that the order of Lawyers be totally abolished; an alternative preferable to their continuing in their present mode."

## SEPARATION FROM SUFFOLK.

Among the reasons for a division of the county and separation from Boston, then contemplated, their Representative was directed to urge—

"4th, Should Courts of Justice be erected in some country town within the county, we expect (at least for a while) that the wheels of law and justice would move on without the clogs and embarrassments of a numerous train of lawyers. The scenes of gaiety and amusements which are now prevalent at Boston we expect would so allure them, as that we should be rid of their perplexing officiousness."

## ECONOMY IN THE GOVERNMENT.

"While we cheerfully promise a compliance with the requisitions of Congress, that they may punctually discharge those debts in which our national faith and honor are engaged; and shall freely contribute our proportion towards the support of necessary government; we recommend to scrupulous investigation our public expenditures; to see that our monies are uniformly applied to the uses for which they are ostensibly appropriated. And that we may be better enabled to furnish our monies for the above purpose, we desire you would endeavor to reduce our public Tax."

es in the following ways, 1st, by reducing the wages and salaries of publick officers, and 2dly, by lopping off unnecessary branches in some department of Government. We shall be protected by the example of sister States from any imputation of parsimony or undue frugality in reducing the Pay of publick officers. And we are of opinion, that sums far less than are annually expended for Government would be adequate to all reasonable expenses of its officers; and enable them to maintain all that decent grandeur that becomes an Infant Republick greatly overborne with taxes. Such a measure we apprehend would have this still further and more salutary effect by inducing many respected and leading characters to introduce economy whose example would have a powerful influence on those who are passionately fond of fashions, and will ape the manners of the great at the expense not only of the conveniences but even of the necessaries of life."

#### ENCOURAGEMENT OF DOMESTIC MANUFACTURES.

"Finally, you are to endeavor that such Laws be enacted as may tend to the encouragement of raising and manufacturing the natural productions of this country, and you are to lay such restrictions as may prohibit the importation and use of foreign luxuries, which have hitherto greatly impoverished, and if not remedied, will involve our country in bankruptcy."

The Instructions from which the above extracts are taken were signed,

"JONATHAN METCALF, *Moderator*.

ISAAC BULLARD, *Town Clerk*."

[NOTE. At the date of the above Instructions, 1786, it will be remembered that Norfolk had not been separated from Suffolk county.—No courts having at that time been established here, the law business was chiefly conducted in the metropolis. Whatever grounds of complaint might then have existed against the order of lawyers, as a class, they cannot, it is believed, with truth be applicable to those who have made Dedham their place of business since it became the shire town, in 1793; certainly not to the few gentlemen of that profession who are now residents here.

Mr. Worthington, himself a lawyer, in his history of Dedham, (page 83) asserts that a universal antipathy prevailed in the country towns generally from 1781 to 1826, against the members of the legal fraternity; and that, from a combination of circumstances, the county of Norfolk during that period was particularly unfavorable to the profession of law. However true this statement might have been, it is certain that the prejudice which appears to have existed here to some extent in former days, has long since given place to a more liberal feeling, and the utmost harmony now prevails.]



## PART II.

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### STATISTICAL HISTORY.

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#### DEDHAM AS IT IS.

The township of Dedham contains by estimation 20,828 acres, including ponds, roads, and waste grounds of every sort. The number of inhabitants at the present time may be fairly estimated at thirty-six hundred, and are to the territory in the proportion of about one hundred and six to a square mile. A large portion of the inhabitants are engaged in agricultural pursuits.

The town is divided into three parishes, which are again subdivided into eleven school districts, with a school house in each. The names of the several School Districts, as established in 1838, are as follows :

No. 1. First Middle District,	No. 6. North District, South Parish.
" 2. Second Middle "	" 7. South " " "
" 3. Mill "	" 8. North District, West Parish.
" 4. Low Plain "	" 9. East " " "
" 5. East Street "	" 10. Walpole Corner " "
No. 11. Westfield District.	

*Boundaries.* Charles river on the north separates Dedham from Needham; Roxbury and Dorchester make its northeast and eastern boundary; Neponset river divides it from Milton and Canton on the southeast; Sharon and Walpole adjoin on the south; Medfield and Dover on the west.

A Branch Railroad, built in 1833, connecting Dedham Village with Boston, passes near some of the principal manufactories. The cars pass over it each way four times a day, occupying about

thirty-five minutes each trip. Its length is about two miles and a quarter, and unites with the Boston and Providence railroad at Low Plain. A charter was granted by the legislature in 1846, for an extension of the Dedham branch railroad to Walpole; active measures are now being taken for its completion. It is contemplated to continue this railroad through to Woonsocket in Rhode Island, and measures are now being adopted to effect this object.

*Taxes.* The amount of town and county taxes, (including highway tax,) assessed upon the inhabitants in 1846, was \$12,045. By a standing vote of the town, all persons who promptly pay their taxes previous to the 20th day of November, each year, are allowed a deduction of six per cent. This secures a full treasury, and the financial credit of the town stands high.

A partial supply of water is brought into the village, through aqueducts laid under ground, from a spring on Federal Hill a distance of about one mile. Two reservoirs are kept filled with water from this source, besides furnishing the inhabitants who choose to purchase from the company who own it.

Dedham contains nine churches for public worship, embracing nearly as many different religious denominations. There are also two printing-offices, from one of which is issued a weekly newspaper. In the professions, are eight officiating clergymen, six practising physicians, and five lawyers.

*Post Offices.* A Post Office is established in each of the three parishes. Jeremiah Shuttleworth, Esq. the former postmaster of Dedham, was appointed in 1793, during the administration of Washington, and held the office during each succeeding administration until February, 1833, when he resigned, being probably at that time the oldest postmaster in the United States. Dr. Elisha Thayer is the present postmaster at this place; Col. Theodore Gay, at West Dedham; Moses Guild, Esq. at South Dedham.

There is no organized militia in the town at the present time. The number of men enrolled and liable to a draft, if called for, in 1845, according to the assessors' return as required by law,

was five hundred and one ; in 1846, the number was three hundred and forty. Previous to the abolishment of militia trainings in 1840, Dedham mustered three standing companies of infantry, one uniform volunteer company of infantry, and (with neighboring towns) a company of cavalry.

During the revolutionary war, Dedham furnished one hundred and six men for the regular Continental army, and a very considerable number performed tours of military service, for longer or shorter periods, in this vicinity or on the frontiers of Rhode Island,—a small remnant of whom still survive. The annual expenditures of the town during the war for Independence, is estimated at eight thousand dollars in our present currency, which is about equal to a tax of eighty thousand dollars at the present time.

The old town cannon alluded to in these pages, being the "great gun" of King Philip's day, and which was "ordered to be swung" in the revolutionary war, was bursted in fragments in firing a salute on the fourth of March, 1845.

The *Ancient Records* of the town are blended together with the "Proprietor's Records," and, including the modern, are contained in twelve large folio volumes. Some of the oldest volumes being somewhat decayed, the town in order to preserve them from being entirely lost, in 1839 employed the Hon. James Richardson to revise and transcribe the most important parts, relative to the rights and transfer of property, into a separate book. The records are deposited with the selectmen and carefully preserved.

The method adopted by the first settlers of the town for notifying town meetings, by posting up the warrant in the porch of the meeting house, that it might be read on the sabbath, is still continued. The fine of two shillings and sixpence formerly imposed for neglect in attending town meeting, has long since been abolished. In April, 1846, a vote was passed by the town, authorizing the selectmen to cause the warrants for town meetings to be published in the newspapers printed in the town, provided it be done without expense to the town.

*Natural Divisions of Land.*

	Acres	Woodland.	Meadow.	Pasture.	Mowing & Tillage.
First Parish, . .	4344	1165	1816	1374	
Second Parish, . .	1127	656	1826	823	
Third Parish, . .	1959	545	1244	692	
Total,	7430	2366	4886	2896	

*Domestic Animals in May, 1844.*

	Horses.	Cows.	Oxen.	Swine.
First Parish, . . .	190	423	88	192
Second Parish, . .	70	296	64	93
Third Parish, . . .	118	260	29	82
Total,	387	979	181	367

In May, 1845, the number of Horses in the Town was 398, valued at \$19,081. Of Neat Cattle, 1264, value \$24,493. Of Swine, 473, value \$7095. Sheep 9, value \$20.

*Assessed Value of Real and Personal Estates, in May, 1845.*

First Parish, . . . . .	\$1,393,690
Second Parish, . . . . .	337,596
Third Parish, . . . . .	388,462
Total,	\$2,119,748

*Value of Real and Personal Estates, in May, 1846, as ascertained by the Assessors, under a new Valuation, ordered by the Town to be taken at their annual meeting in March.*

First Parish, . . . . .	\$1,501,658
Second Parish, . . . . .	330,347
Third Parish, . . . . .	385,960
Total,	\$2,217,965

A custom has prevailed in the first parish, since 1822, of forming a social company from year to year, for target practice, with rifles. Their meeting is usually held on the Friday preceding the day appointed by the State authorities for the annual Thanksgiving.

## MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT FOR 1847—8.

ELECTED MARCH 1, 1847.

*Selectmen and Overseers of Poor*—John Bullard, Martin Draper, Mason Richards.

*Assessors*—William Whiting, Joseph Day, Nathaniel Smith, Merrill D. Ellis, John Eaton.

*Town Clerk*—Jonathan H. Cobb.

*Treasurer and Collector*—Austin Bryant.

*School Committee*—Alvan Lamson, Samuel B. Babcock, Calvin Durfee, J. W. Parkhurst, Jonathan H. Cobb.

*Constables*—Sanford Carroll, Dexter Baker, Addison Boyden.

*Firewards.*

Reuben S. Wilson,	Joseph Day,
Oliver Capen,	Eliphalet Stone,
William Whiting,	John Morse,
Colburn Ellis,	Benjamin F. Keyes,
Timothy Smith,	Nathaniel Colburn.

The Dedham Bank was established in 1814, and has a capital of \$150,000. Jeremy Stimson, President; Lewis H. Kingsbury, chosen Cashier in January, 1847, in place of Ebenezer Fisher, jr. resigned, and since deceased.

*Dedham Institution for Savings*, incorporated March 15, 1831. It has been in successful operation for sixteen years, and has now a capital of \$275,000. The number of depositors in April, 1847, was about fourteen hundred and forty. The annual meeting is held on the first Wednesday in May. Rev. Ebenezer Burgess, President; Rev. Alvan Lamson, Hon. John Endicott, Vice-Presidents. The Trustees are Martin Marsh, Rev. John White, Rev. Samuel B. Babcock, Thomas Barrows, James Richardson, Ezra W. Taft, Ira Cleveland, Ezra W. Sampson. The Committee of Investment are Enos Foord, Joseph Guild, John Bullard, Ezra Wilkinson. Secretary and Treasurer, George Ellis, 2d.

There are two Insurance offices. The *Norfolk Mutual Fire Insurance Company* insure buildings for seven years. This com-

pany has been in operation twenty-two years, and the cash funds have accumulated so as to enable the company at this time to pay a loss of upwards of fifty-four thousand dollars without making any assessment. The number of policies at risk, April 6, 1847, was 5369; amount insured, \$6,060,176. The annual meeting of this company is held on the first Tuesday in April. The present officers are James Richardson, President: Ira Cleveland, Secretary; Martin Marsh, Treasurer.

The *Dedham Mutual Fire Insurance Company* was incorporated in 1837, for insuring buildings and personal property. Their policies run for one year. The annual meeting is held on the first Wednesday in July. James Richardson, President, Ira Cleveland, Secretary.

A handsome brick edifice has just been erected near the court house, for the accommodation of the Insurance offices, the Savings Institution, Dedham Bank, and other offices. A portion of the basement story of this building is improved by Messrs. Pierce and Dresser, for a market house.

An organized Society exists in the town, provided with ample funds for the prompt pursuit and apprehension of horse thieves, and the recovery of stolen horses. Its annual meeting is held on the first Monday in January.

Another organized Society exists in the first parish, called the Dedham Thief Detecting Society. Its object is the protection of its members from thieves and pilferers, and is provided with ample means for the pursuit and detection of offenders, and recovery of stolen property.

The *Quinobequin Lodge* of Odd Fellows, have a large and commodious hall in the village, on Centre-street, where they hold their regular meetings. They number at this time about one hundred members.

The last of the Aborigines in Dedham, were Alexander Quabish, and Sarah, his wife. Sarah died in 1774, at the house of Mr. Joseph Wight, on or near Ragged plain, and was buried in the old Indian burial-place, half a mile from Mr. Wight's

house, at the foot of Wigwam hill—being the last person there deposited. Alexander died at Natick, or Needham, in 1776.

Various Indian relics have from time to time been dug up from the sand banks in the southerly part of Dedham village, about one fourth of a mile northwest from Wigwam pond. A stone pestle, used by the aborigines for grinding maize, excavated in 1836, is now in possession of H. Mann, preserved in its original shape. Other Indian tools and ornaments, such as chisels, axes, beads, &c. all of stone, found embedded on lands of deacon Martin Marsh, remain in his possession.

*Corn Mills.* Mr. James Farrington, on Dedham Island, has in his possession one of the hand Corn Mills, brought over from the old country by the first settlers, and used for grinding corn before the establishment of water mills here. It is kept in a good state of preservation, and is still capable of performing service. Another of these hand mills is preserved in the family of Mr. Joseph Onion.

*Ornamental Trees in the First Parish.*

The Elms on each side of Court-street near the head of School street, were transplanted in 1790.

Elms in the Upper Village, on the road leading from the pond to the Needham road—in 1805.

The row of beautiful Elms on the west side of Eastern Avenue, below the Phoenix House to the terminus of the Mechanics' buildings—in 1832.

Elms on Chesnut Avenue, from High-street to Village Avenue—in 1836.

Elms on the north side of the road in Mill Village, by the Stone Factory—in 1838.

Elms on west side of Bow-street, to the bend from High-street, in 1841—from thence, southwesterly, in 1846.

American and English Elms on the Great Common—in 1842.

Forest trees on the north side of East-street—on the west side of Mill Lane—in Mount Vernon-street—and in Park and Auburn streets, running from East-street to Mt. Vernon-street—in 1846.

Elms on the west side of the street leading from High-street to the Cemetery—Elms side of the Episcopal church—and on the west end of Village Avenue—in 1846.

*Town Expenses, for the year ending March 1, 1847, as made out by the Selectmen.*

For Poor in the Poor House, . . . . .	\$698 31
" Poor out of the Poor House, . . . . .	226 53
" Patients in State Lunatic Hospital, . . . . .	264 14
" Roads and Bridges, . . . . .	327 31
" Repair of Highways, . . . . .	1995 59
" Abatement of Taxes, . . . . .	243 16
" Discount on Taxes, . . . . .	621 22
" Support of Schools, . . . . .	3892 63
" Removing Snow, . . . . .	575 37
" Fire Department, . . . . .	985 24
" Incidental expenses, . . . . .	97 23
" Town Officers, . . . . .	852 09
" County Tax, . . . . .	765 24
	<hr/>
	\$11,544 06

Large quantities of excellent Peat are yearly cut from the meadows bordering on Charles river, and used for fuel. These peat meadows cover an extent of several hundred acres north and east of the village, and around Dedham Island. The Fowl meadows, adjoining Neponset river, also furnish an abundance of this article.

The *Public Schools* are in a flourishing condition. In the annual report presented to the town, April 6, 1846, the School Committee remark—"Dedham is not wanting in liberality in the grant of money for the support of schools. In the comparative amount granted for the education of each child between the ages of four and sixteen, it stood in 1843-4, the eighth in the list of towns in the Commonwealth, and in 1844-5, the ninth. It probably occupies nearly the same position now." In May, 1846, Dedham stood number twelve among the three hundred and nine towns of Massachusetts. This apparent falling back in the list of towns, for a year or two past, is not caused by any deficiency or retrograde movement in our own schools, for they are continually improving, but is owing to the laudable competition of other towns to excel in the advancement of knowledge. A spirit is apparent among the citizens at this time, from which it is fair to



infer that Dedham will not be long in regaining at least her former position in the list of towns, as regards its schools, it having this year raised the grant from 3750 to 5000 dollars. The Prudential committees contract with the teachers. The whole number of school children in the town, according to the last returns, is 822. They are enumerated in the several Districts, as follows :

Districts.	Scholars.	Districts.	Scholars.	Districts.	Scholars.
No. 1.	218	No. 5.	42	No. 9.	53'
" 2.	87	" 6.	99	" 10.	24
" 3.	110	" 7.	28	" 11.	15
" 4.	45	" 8.	101		

The *Sunday Schools*, connected with the different religious societies in the town, are under the general superintendence of the several clergymen. The teachers perform their labors gratuitously, and the schools are usually well attended.

The *Ladies' Sewing Circles*, in the different parishes, are among the most prominent and active societies for the relief of suffering humanity. Social meetings are frequently held, at stated periods, where each member contributes according to her ability to swell the funds devoted to charitable objects. Ever ready and prompt to assist those of our species upon whom the hand of misfortune presses heavily, the agents of these benevolent societies require no second call upon them for aid ; while the silent prayer ascends from many a grateful heart, whose urgent wants are anticipated and relieved. The public and sabbath schools also receive a new impetus from the lively interest exhibited by the ladies of Dedham in their prosperity ; and it is to their influence and active exertions, that the town is greatly indebted for the recent improvements in the several cemeteries. These improvements have served to dispel much of the gloom that formerly overshadowed them, and contributed to render a visit to these " cities of the dead " attractive rather than repulsive, to those of a contemplative mind, whose friends and relatives are there reposing.

#### *Cemetery in the First Parish.*

A portion of the grounds appropriated for a Burial Place in the first parish, was taken from the south end of the home lots orig-

inally assigned to Nicholas Phillips and Joseph Kingsbury, and set apart, in 1638, "for the use of a public burial place for the town forever." A way leading from High-street by the meeting house to the burial place was established in 1664, on the west side of the church lot, one rod broad, and to be kept in repair at the public charge.

In the winter of 1839-40, eleven hundred and twenty-five dollars were raised in the first parish, for improvements in their burial ground—as follows :

Ladies, by subscription and Fair, . . .	\$575
Gentlemen, by subscription, . . . . .	450
Ladies' Charitable Society, . . , . .	50
Private donations, . . . . .	50

At a meeting of the citizens, a committee of three, one from each Society in the parish, was chosen, viz : Martin Marsh for Rev. Dr. Lamson's society, John Bullard for Rev. Dr. Burgess' society, and Ira Cleveland for the Episcopal church, to superintend the expenditure of the funds.

The public improvements were begun in the spring of 1840, and since that time four or five hundred trees and shrubs of various kinds, comprising more than fifty varieties, have been planted, and are now mostly in vigorous growth ; some of which have attained considerable size. A new wall of faced stone has been erected in front, with two iron gates at the entrance ways, and a carriage way and paths have been made. Upwards of thirty monuments of marble, free stone and granite have been erected, surrounded by suitable fences, at an expense of about five thousand dollars, by various individuals, in private lots, in different parts of the ground.

For the commencement and completion of these improvements the public are mainly indebted to Ira Cleveland, Esq.

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#### *Cemetery in the West Parish.*

The Burial Ground in the third parish being an unseemly spot, in the year 1843 measures were proposed and adopted for improving its appearance. The Ladies commenced, and appropriated about seven hundred dollars, the avails of two Fairs, to the prosecution of the undertaking.

A piece of adjoining land, already covered by a natural growth of forest trees, given by the owners and some other friends, was added to the old enclosure. About four hundred dollars were raised by subscription among the gentlemen of the parish. The amount of money, not far from eleven hundred dollars, having been expended in erecting a handsome and substantial iron fence, in smoothing the surface of the earth, in setting out trees and shrubs in the old ground, and in forming convenient paths, the Cemetery has lost its forbidding aspect, wears a beautiful and attractive appearance, and, thus adorned, gives evidence of the good taste and of the enterprise of the inhabitants of the west parish.

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#### POWDER HOUSE.

The brief history of the pile of mason work that now stands so conspicuously near the road, on Dedham Island, the origin and use of which has excited no little curiosity, is this: In May, 1762, the town voted, "to have the powder house builded on a great rock in Aaron Fuller's land, near Charles river," and captain Eliphalet Fales, Daniel Gay and Ebenezer Kingsbury were chosen a committee to build the house. At the meeting in May, 1765, the above named committee not having complied with the request of the town to build, two more persons were joined, viz. deacon Nathaniel Kingsbury and captain David Fuller, and instructed to have said house erected forthwith;—the same "to be eight feet square, on the outside, and six feet high under the plates—the materials to be brick and lime mortar." It was done, and for many years the building was used for the storage of ammunition.

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#### THE DAMON DONATION.

In 1779, deacon Samuel Damon made a donation to the town of one thousand dollars, on the following conditions: 1st, the money to be loaned out, never to be expended, but to remain a standing fund during time. 2d, the interest accruing therefrom,

to be expended annually among such of the inhabitants as may be in low and indigent circumstances, but not to such as are at the time of distribution a charge to the town. 3d, the oldest deacon of the first church to be the treasurer, to loan the money, keep the securities, and collect the interest yearly. 4th, the Town to choose annually one good and faithful man in each parish to receive from said treasurer and distribute as above, the share each parish is to draw, which shall be in proportion to what each parish pays towards the state or town tax. This committee is to furnish such poor families with a bible, if destitute of one, and to report to the town the manner which such interest money is disposed of. The conditions, of which the above are the substance, are entered in full upon the town records, and the interest has continued to be distributed to this time, according to the wish of the donor.

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*Number of Dwelling Houses and Polls.*

	In May, 1845.		In May, 1846.	
	Dwelling Houses.	Polls.	Dwelling Houses.	Polls.
First Parish,	327	591	342	635
Second Parish,	113	171	113	169
Third Parish,	124	192	127	199
Total,	564	954	582	1003

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*Progress of Population.*

In 1765	the number of inhabitants	was	1919	-
In 1790	"	"	"	1659 -
In 1800	"	"	"	1973
In 1810	"	"	"	2172
In 1820	"	"	"	2485
In 1830	"	"	"	3057
In 1837	"	"	"	3532
In 1840	"	"	"	3290

## STATISTICS OF MANUFACTURES.

The following Statistics of certain branches of Industry, as they existed in the town on the first of April, 1845, are gathered from the return of the Assessors, made agreeably to the directions of the general court of March 21, 1845.

Number of *Cotton Mills*, 2, with 4400 spindles. Amount of cotton consumed during the year ending April 1, 1845, 199,700 pounds. Yards of cotton cloth manufactured during said year, 971,500. Gross value of the same, \$56,575.

One Spool Thread cotton factory, which spools 5000 pounds of cotton.

Amount of capital invested in the manufacture of cotton, sixty-one thousand two hundred dollars. Number of males employed in said business, 29, females 75.

*Woollen Mills*, 3, with twelve sets of woollen machinery, consuming during the year 305,000 pounds of wool. Yards of Cassimere manufactured, 135,000; value, \$45,000. Yards of Satinet, 165,000; value, \$105,000.

Amount of capital invested, \$75,000. Number of males employed, 80; females, 80.

*Silk Manufactory*, 1. Pounds of Sewing Silk manufactured, 7300. Value, \$47,450. Capital invested, \$10,000. Males employed 6, females 34.

*Furnace*, for manufacturing Hollow Ware and Castings, 1. Tons of hollow ware and other castings manufactured, 175.—Capital invested, \$4500. Hands employed, 12.

Manufactories of Shovels, Spades, Forks and Hoes, 2. Value of manufactured articles, \$3847. Hands employed 5.

*Paper Manufactory*, 1. Pounds of paper manufactured, 175,000. Value, \$7000. Capital invested, \$5000. Hands employed, 5.

*Chair and Cabinet Manufactories*, 8. Value of manufactured articles, \$51,671. Capital invested, \$15,900. Hands employed in the same, 58.

*Tin Ware and Sheet Iron* manufactories, 2. Value of tin ware manufactured, \$500; of sheet iron, \$2400. Capital invested, \$600. Number of hands employed, 3.

Establishments for the manufacture of Chaises, Coaches, Wagons, and other vehicles, 4. Value of articles manufactured during said year, \$5700. Capital invested, \$1400. Number of hands employed, 9.

*Tanneries*, 2. The number of Hides tanned during said year, 121,000. Value of Leather tanned and curried, \$48,450. Capital invested, \$17,000. Hands employed 15.

*Pairs of Boots* manufactured during the year, 1380; of Shoes, 37,445. Value of Boots and Shoes, \$28,285. Males employed, 35, females, 24.

Value of Saddles and Harnesses manufactured during the year \$825.

Cigar manufactories, 2. Value of cigars manufactured, \$5300. Males employed, 6, females, 4.

*Pocket Book and Rule Manufactory*, 1. Value of articles manufactured, 2-3 pocket books, 1-3 rules, \$13,000. Capital invested in same, \$4000. Males employed 5, females 4.

Establishment for *Marble and Fancy Colored Papers*, 1. Gross value of marble and fancy colored papers, \$10,000; of enamelled and other business cards, \$8000. Capital invested in said business, \$7500. Males employed, 5, females, 10.

*Turning Mill*, 1. Gross value of turned work, in wood \$8000, in iron axletrees, \$1200. Capital invested, \$3000. Hands employed, 9.

*Hat and Cap Manufactory*, coloring connected, 1. Value of hats and caps manufactured, \$425. Amount received for coloring, \$400.

Gallons of Sperm and other Oil consumed in the manufacturing establishments, 5005. Value of other articles of American production, excepting cotton, wool, and iron, consumed by said manufacturing establishments, \$7500. Value of all other articles of foreign production, excepting as above, consumed by same, \$11,500.

Bushels Indian Corn produced during said year, 4845; value, \$3876. Bushels Rye, 575; value, \$517. Bushels Barley, 404; value, \$202. Bushels Oats, 17; value \$11. Bushels Potatoes, 27,586; value \$8552.

Value of other Esculent Vegetables, \$1392.

Bushels of Fruit, various kinds, 10,362 ; value, 2853 dollars.

Gallons of Milk produced during the year, 179,689 ; value, 17,969 dollars.

Pounds of Butter, 13,130 ; value, 2100 dollars.

Pounds of Cheese, 3373 ; value 203 dollars.

The machinery used in the manufacturing of several of the above branches of industry, is moved by steam power.

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#### DEDHAM NEWSPAPERS.

In my endeavors to give an authentic record of Dedham Newspapers, from their first commencement, it is deemed proper to state that I have not been able to procure a copy of any one printed prior to December, 1797, when Mr. H. Mann became the publisher. In a "Minerva" bearing date December 5, 1799, is the following paragraph ;—"This number of the Columbian Minerva completes *two years* since the present editor has become proprietor of it." As the paper was published weekly, and the one containing this extract was numbered 165, vol. 4, it is inferred that the publication was commenced fourteen months before Mr. Mann became the proprietor, and very probably by Nathaniel and Benjamin Heaton, of whom, as near as can be ascertained, he purchased the printing establishment. This probability is still further strengthened by the following obituary notice, published in a Minerva dated June 12, 1800 ;—"Died, at Wrentham, Mr. Benjamin Heaton, formerly one of the editors of the Minerva."

1796. *Columbian Minerva* commenced in October. In December, 1797, the printing establishment was purchased by Herman Mann, senior, who then became the proprietor and editor of the paper. It was discontinued September 4, 1804, when its editor, in his valedictory address to the patrons of the paper, remarks—"Few persons of the present day, are willing to labor, either with hands or head, without compensation, and, generally, what is called a handsome profit;" and adds, "while I am ready, and do, from my heart, lament my inabilities, as an editor, to make it [the Minerva] of the utmost utility—I have to deplore the *want* of encouragement to bring every latent spark of genius into its best exercise." The last remark holds true of a majority of its successors.

1805. *Norfolk Repository*, commenced May 14, by Herman Mann, senior, editor and proprietor. It was issued in a quarto form of eight pages, and was continued to September 17, when the "post-rider" suddenly disappearing with a large share of the funds belonging to the establishment, its publication was "unavoidably suspended," and was not again resumed until March 25, 1806; from which time it was published in the quarto form until its final discontinuance in 1811.

1813. *Dedham Gazette* commenced; Jabez Chickering, proprietor; Theron Metcalf, editor; Abel D. Alleyne, printer. On the first of January, 1819, the establishment was purchased by H. Mann, jr. and William H. Mann, who published the paper six months, when it was discontinued.

1820. *Village Register*, commenced June 9; printed by H. Mann, jr. and brother, three months for Asa Gowen, proprietor. September 15, Jonathan H. Cobb became proprietor, who published it one year; H. & W. H. Mann, printers. Its publication was then continued a few months by Barnum Field. October 18, 1822, the Messrs. Manns became the proprietors, and the paper was published by them until March 5, 1824, when it was printed by the Manns for David L. Holbrook, one year. After which, H. & W. H. Mann became sole proprietors, and continued to publish the paper until November, 1829, when it was discontinued.

1829. *Norfolk County Republican* commenced December 3d, and continued one year only. It was printed by H. & W. H. Mann, for John B. Derby, editor.

1830. *Dedham Patriot* commenced December 31, by Herman Mann, jr. and published under the firm of H. & W. H. Mann. The latter soon disposing of his share in the printing-office to John B. Tolman, the paper was continued under the firm of Mann & Tolman until August 26, 1831, when it came into the possession of H. Mann, jr. and was published by him until December, 1835. On the first of January, 1836, S. C. & E. Mann became the proprietors; John S. Houghton editor and printer. In October, same year, it was called the *Dedham Patriot and*



*Canton Gazette.* In July, 1837, Houghton & Ewer became proprietors. In January 1838, Smith & Ewer were the proprietors; J. S. Houghton still the editor. In October, 1838, S. C. & E. Mann again became the proprietors and publishers. In January, 1840, the printing-office was removed to Roxbury, and the paper assumed the title of *Dedham Patriot and Roxbury Democrat*; Warren B. Ewer editor and proprietor. In March, 1841, it was called the *Patriot and Democrat*. In April following, John S. March became the proprietor. In August, 1841, the printing-office was again removed to Dedham, and the old name of *Dedham Patriot* resumed; W. B. Ewer editor, proprietor and printer. In June, 1842, the title was changed to *Norfolk County American*, and in November, same year, Jonathan B. Mann became the proprietor, with J. F. Moore as joint editor. The present editor and proprietor, Edward L. Keyes, came into possession in May, 1844. In the spring of 1846, the printing establishment was once more removed to Roxbury, where its publication is still continued.

1831. *Independent Politician and Working Men's Advocate*, commenced January 1, by L. Powers, proprietor and printer; Joseph A. Wilder, editor. In the autumn of same year, Ebenezer Fish became the proprietor. July 13, 1832, it assumed the title of *Norfolk Advertiser and Independent Politician*. April 2, 1836, it was simply the *Norfolk Advertiser*. August 1, 1837, Elbridge G. Robinson became the proprietor and publisher, until its discontinuance, February 1, 1839, when the *Norfolk Democrat* commenced from the same office; E. G. Robinson proprietor and printer; Silas W. Wilder editor to February, 1843; since which time the paper has been continued by Mr. Robinson, editor and proprietor.

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#### OLD AND NEW STYLE OF COMPUTING TIME.

The exact solar year is found by astronomers to be 365 days, 6 hours, 48 minutes, 48 seconds. But in computing time, the solar year is assumed to consist of 365 days, 6 hours, 49 minutes. This computation, which was made and promulgated by

Pope Gregory XIII. in 1582, and thence called the Gregorian style, requires that an intercalation of one day in February should be made every fourth year, for the recovery of the odd hours; and that the sixteen hundredth year of the Christian era, and every fourth century hereafter, should be a bissextile or leap year, for the recovery of the odd minutes. He also ordained, in order to restore the equinoxes which, according to the previous mode of computing time, had fallen back ten days since A. D. 325, that ten days should be cut off after the fourth day of October, so that the fifth should be the fifteenth. The odd seconds would require the intercalation of one day in about 7200 years.

This New Style of computing time is now introduced in most countries of Europe, but was not adopted in England, and consequently not in this country, until 1752, when by an act of Parliament it was ordered, that *eleven* days should be stricken off from the month of September in that year, and the *third* day of that month be made the *fourteenth*.

The rule therefore to be observed in reducing old style to new, appears to be, that to all dates subsequent to October 4, 1582, and previous to the introduction of the new style in this country, *ten* days only should be added, except the year 1600, when *eleven* days are required for that year only; it being the bissextile or leap year for the recovery of the odd minutes. The years 2000, 2400, 2800, will each require a day to be added for the recovery of the odd minutes up to those dates respectively, in the same way that a day is added every fourth year, for recovering the odd hours, but for those years only. The eleven days stricken off by the British Parliament included the additional one required for the year 1600, and could only apply to the year 1752, when the Gregorian style was adopted. Every year divisible by 4, without a remainder, is leap year.

In this book, all dates in the early records are made to correspond with the present style of computing time, according to the above rule.

## TOWN CLERKS.

The name of each individual is given the year in which he was first elected ; and the number of years he was chosen is added, without noticing the particular years. Town Clerks and Selectmen were elected for the first time May 17, 1639.

1639—Edward Allen	2	1755—Jonathan Metcalf	1
1641—Eleazer Lusher	23	1759—William Avery	4
1643—Michael Powell	4	1764—Samuel Dexter	5
1657—Joshua Fisher	4	1769—Isaac Whiting	6
1661—Timothy Dwight	10	1773—Joseph Guild	4
1681—Nathaniel Stearns	5	1778—Ebenezer Battelle	2
1687—Thomas Battelle	2	1780—Abner Ellis	1
1690—John Fuller	4	1781—Ichabod Gay	2
1694—William Avery	15	1783—Nathaniel Kingsbury	1
1709—Joseph Wight	13	1784—Isaac Bullard	3
1720—Jeremiah Fisher	6	1787—Eliphalet Pond	25
1727—John Gay	2	1812—Josiah Daniell	3
1729—William Avery	1	1815—Richard Ellis	29
1731—John Metcalf	16	1824—John Bullard	1
1747—Eliphalet Pond	12	1845—Jonathan H. Cobb	3

## SELECTMEN.

The same rule is adopted here as under the head of Town Clerks, in reference to the time of election and the number of years in office.

1639—Edward Allen	3	1643—Michael Powell	4
John Kingsbury	12	1644—William Bullard	2
John Luson	2	Timothy Dwight	24
Eleazer Lusher	29	1645—Joseph Kingsbury	2
John Dwight	16	Henry Phillips	1
Robert Hinsdale	3	1646—Anthony Fisher	2
John Bachelor	2	Edward Richards	9
1640—Ralph Wheelock	1	1649—Joshua Fisher	21
John Hayward	9	1650—Daniel Fisher	32
1641—Samuel Morse	2	1651—Nathaniel Colburn	5
Thomas Wight	6	1654—John Gay	1
Nathan Aldis	3	1658—John Hunting	15
Michael Metcalf	1	Jonathan Fairbanks	1
Francis Chickering	15	1661—Richard Everett	1
1642—Henry Chickering	6	John Bacon	4
1643—Peter Woodward	16	Henry Wight	10

1661—Ralph Day	2	1719—Jeremiah Fisher	6
Daniel Pond	14	Samuel Ware	1
1663—Thomas Fuller	14	Joseph Dean	2
1664—William Avery	8	1720—Jabez Pond	2
1673—Richard Ellis	9	1721—John Gay	4
1675—John Aldis	12	Joseph Smith	1
John Farrington	2	1722—Ebenezer Woodward	3
1677—Thomas Battelle	5	1724—John Everett	8
1678—Thomas Metcalf	10	1727—Joseph Smith	2
1681—Nathaniel Stearns	5	1729—Eleazer Ellis	1
1684—William Avery	22	1731—Nathaniel Chickering	5
1687—Peter Woodward	1	John Fisher	2
1688—Timothy Dwright	1	Joseph Richards	5
James Thorp	1	1732—Ephraim Wilson	7
1690—John Fuller	5	1736—Richard Everett	5
Daniel Fisher	9	Jeremiah Fisher	6
Ezra Morse	4	Josiah Fisher	7
Joseph Wight	18	1739—Jonathan Onion	3
1692—Asahel Smith	3	Jonathan Whiting	2
Nathaniel Chickering	1	1741—Joseph Wight	14
1693—Samuel Guild	20	Nathaniel Battle	3
Eleazer Kingsbury	10	1742—Eleazer Fisher	2
1694—Nathaniel Bullard	2	Joseph Ellis	2
1697—Josiah Fisher	5	1743—Eliphalet Pond	16
1698—Samuel Gay	1	1744—William Everett	5
Robert Avery	1	Richard Ellis	3
1699—Jonathan Metcalf	1	Joshua Ellis	3
1702—Thomas Fuller	5	1746—James Draper	1
Joseph Fairbanks	3	Lusher Gay	2
1704—Nathaniel Gay	7	1747—Michael Bacon	1
Amos Fisher	2	1748—Hezekiah Allen	2
1705—John Fuller	2	1749—Ezra Morse	4
Benjamin Colburn	2	Nathaniel Colburn	1
1706—John Smith	3	1750—Benjamin Fairbanks	3
1707—Timothy Whiting	8	Nathaniel Wilson	3
1710—Robert Cook	1	1753—Nathaniel Sumner	19
1711—John Ellis	3	Isaac Whiting	12
1712—Daniel Wight	2	Joseph Chickering	2
1714—Joseph Ellis	5	1755—Jonathan Metcalf	1
Michael Metcalf	7	Stephen Badlam	4
1715—Comfort Starr	3	Jonathan Day	3
1716—John Metcalf	27	1756—James Draper	2
1717—Nathaniel Kingsbury	2	1758—William Avery	13
William Bullard	8	Daniel Gay	3
1718—William Avery	5	Ralph Day	2
John Hunting	1	1759—John Jones	3

## SELECTMEN.

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1760—Ebenezer Everett	4	1793—Abel Richards	1
1762—David Fuller	2	1794—Asa Fisher	1
Samuel Colburn	5	Jonathan Richards	5
Daniel Chickering	4	1795—Joseph Turner	1
1764—Samuel Dexter	5	Oliver Guild	4
Ebenezer Newell	7	1797—Benjamin Fairbanks	1
1767—Joseph Haven	5	1799—Abner Guild	4
1768—Joseph Guild	7	Samuel H. Dean	10
1769—Abijah Draper	5	1801—Isaac Colburn	2
1770—William Whiting	3	1803—Moses Whiting	6
1771—William Bullard	2	Abner Ellis	7
1773—Isaac Bullard	5	Ebenezer Sumner	1
Nathaniel Kingsbury	5	1804—Joshua Whiting	9
Isaac Colburn	2	1805—Benjamin Colburn	1
Nathaniel Battle	1	1806—Seth Gay	2
1774—Jonathan Dean	1	1808—Richard Ellis	4
1775—Samuel Damon	3	Josiah Daniell	7
Ichabod Gay	4	1809—Benjamin Fisher	1
1776—Isaac Whiting	2	1811—William Phipps	6
George Gould	7	1813—Moses Gay	3
Eleazer Allen	1	1815—Joseph Onion	2
1777—Jeremiah Kingsbury	1	Paul Ellis	1
1778—Ebenezer Battelle	2	1816—Joshua Fales	5
John Ellis	13	1817—Martin Marsh	12
Ichabod Ellis	1	Obed Baker	3
1779—Ebenezer Smith	2	1819—Jesse Gay	3
Ebenezer Battle	1	William Ellis	2
1780—Abner Ellis	1	1820—John Guild	6
Abiathar Richards	1	1825—John Bullard	20
1783—Lemuel Richards	1	Lewis Rhoads	7
1784—Ebenezer Gay	1	James Pettee	2
1785—Ebenezer Fisher	1	John Dean	8
Benjamin Fairbanks	1	1826—Jeremiah Draper	1
1786—Aaron Fuller	16	1828—Colburn Ellis	14
Joseph Gay	1	1830—Ebenezer Fisher	1
1787—Eliphalet Pond	16	1831—Wm. King Gay	1
Nathaniel Whiting	4	1832—Jabez Sumner	9
James Kingsbury	1	George Ellis 2d.	14
1788—Joseph Whiting	3	1833—Timothy P. Whitney	1
1791—Eliphalet Thorp	1	Ellis Fuller	7
1792—George Ellis	10	1842—J. N. E. Mann	4
Calvin Whiting	14	1843—Martin Draper	5
1793—Jesse Gay	6	1846—Mason Richards	2

## ALLOTMENT AND VALUE OF LANDS.

A survey having been made of such lands near at hand as were suitable for tillage, a dividend was made of them among the proprietors, in 1643, by the seven men who were annually selected to have the general supervision of public affairs. In making this division, the following general rules were observed :

"1. The number of persons one considerable rule in division, yet not the only rule ; and it was considered,—2, That servants should be referred to men's estates and according to men's estates. 3. According to men's rank, quality, desert and usefulness, either in church or commonwealth. 4. That men of useful trades may have material to improve the same, be encouraged, and have land as near home as may be convenient ; and that husbandmen that have abilities to improve more than others be considered in this division."

These rules appear to have been observed so long as there were any common lands remaining to be divided ; a portion being always appropriated and set apart for the public use of the town, the church, and the school.

In all divisions of woods and waste lands, each proprietor received a quantity proportioned to the number of shares, or "cow commons," originally allotted him. A general division of these lands was agreed upon by the proprietors in 1659, by which means it was that each became possessed of lots in different parts of the town. Many of these estates still remain in possession of the descendants of those to whom they were originally allotted.

During the first century of the settlement, the worth of these lands in money was but of little account in comparison with their present value in the market. A committee appointed by the town in 1650, to purchase some lands adjoining Dedham and now included within its limits, then belonging to Roxbury people, were restricted from giving more than 60*l.* for one thousand acres. Many of these acres would now be valued separately at prices equal to the reputed value of the whole at that time. As the population of the town increased, they of course became more and more in demand, and the ratio of value kept pace with it.

Since the construction of railroads, the usual products of farms are brought from a distance to compete with the produce of the soil in this quarter. The tendency of this competition is, to lessen the worth of lands here, for farming purposes. But these same railroads also tend to the increase of business in the neighboring cities, and to such an extent as to compel the inhabitants to seek locations for their dwelling houses in the surrounding country.

The healthy situation of Dedham, its beautiful scenery, with its excellent schools, combined with the numerous elegant sites for building spots in the vicinity of the terminus of the branch railroad, offer great inducements for such to make this town their permanent residence. Of these advantages they will undoubtedly continue to avail themselves to an almost unlimited extent, so long as building spots can be obtained at reasonable prices. Any extravagant price required for lands here, would inevitably drive people to seek other locations for the erection of their dwellings, who would otherwise gladly locate themselves in this pleasant town.

The proprietors of the soil too, will doubtless in time turn their attention more to the cultivation of greater varieties of early fruits, and the raising of garden vegetables for the market, to supply the continually increasing demand. A large portion of the soil here is well adapted to this kind of produce. If rightly managed, it can scarcely fail of proving a profitable source of revenue to the landholders; more especially as these productions cannot so well be brought in competition from abroad, as is the case with the more staple and less perishable articles.

These natural deviations from the present established course of agricultural pursuits, together with the further introduction of manufactures and the mechanic arts into the town, will keep lands here from falling below their present rates, and gradually enhance their value.

The following are the names of Proprietors, to whom the grant of lands alluded to in the commencement of this article was made. They are copied from the town records, folio 1, page 81. The date corresponds with the 16th of February, 1643, present style.

"The 6th of the 12 month, 1642.

"Granted to those persons whose names are underwritten, of upland ground fit for improvement with the plough, as followeth:"

ORIGINAL PROPRIETORS OF LANDS.

John Kingsbury	James Jordan	John Dwight
John Hayward	James Allin	Nathaniel Whiting
John Bachelor	John Newton	Edward Kempe
Michael Bacon	Edward Alleyn	Thomas Bayer
Thomas Alcocke	Edward Colver	Edward Richards
Robert Ware	Robert Mason	Francis Chickering
Thomas Paine	John Allin, pastor	William Bearstow
Austin Kalem	Joseph Kingsbury	George Bearstow
John Ellis	Henry Brocke	Jonathan Fairbanks
John Eaton	Nathaniel Colburn	John Fairbanks
Thomas Eames	Henry Phillips	Michael Powell
Mr. Samuel Cook	Nathan Aldis	Michael Metcalf
William Bullard	Samuel Morse	Henry Wilson
John Bullard	John Morse	John Frary
John Gay	Joseph Morse	Eleazer Lusher
Anthony Fisher	Richard Ellis	Peter Woodward
Twaits Strickland	John Hunting, elder	Richard Everett
Thomas Wight	John Roper	John Guild
Henry Chickering	Henry Smith	Ferdinando Adams
John Thurston	Richard Barber	James Herring
Elizabeth Fisher	Lambert Genery	Samuel Bullen
Robert Gowen	Thomas Leader	Daniel Morse
Thomas Jordan	Timothy Dwight	

CLAY GROUNDS.

The bricks used in building the houses of the first settlers of Dedham, were made from the clay found in various places near their dwellings. One of the principal clay pits was that on the lot of Michael Metcalf on Dedham Island, now included in the farm of Thomas Motley, Esq. A brick kiln was worked at this place at an early date. In May, 1643, the proprietors "Ordered, that Thomas Paine and all that are enclosed by the fence on the Island near the brick kiln shall dig a ditch from the creek already ditched to the upland, to fence their corn and meadow; and if the town shall hereafter see cause to dig a creek to come up with a boat from the river to the brick kiln, the town shall



make the said parties that dig the ditch such satisfaction as shall be considered by indifferent men, that the said ditch shall further the digging of the creek." In 1661, Robert Ware wishing to exchange a highway leading to the clay pits near this brick kiln, Thomas Fuller and Thomas Paine are deputed to lay out the new way, which is done accordingly. This way was kept open until 1745, when it being represented that it might be closed without detriment to the town, permission was granted for shutting it up, liberty being reserved for the inhabitants to pass and repass, to carry away the clay that might be dug there.

In October, 1649, John Dwight and Lieut. Fisher are deputed to bargain with Lambert Genery, for a small parcel of land in his lot, where clay may be found for brick, and return answer to the selectmen; who return answer that said Lambert hereby gives it to the town. Ralph Day is allowed the free use of the clay for making bricks, and is also allowed to take what wood he may want for that purpose from the common lands.

Another spot where clay was dug in considerable quantities was in East-street, on land allotted to George Bearstow, now belonging to the heirs of Ebenezer Fairbanks, and near his late residence. Leave was granted to the town by the proprietor, in 1647, to dig clay in this ground, as appears by the following record;—"January 5, George Bearstow granteth to the town that part of his house lot that lyeth at the west end thereof, where clay is accustomed to be digged, viz. from the Little river or creek at the end of his said lot, all the breadth thereof so far eastward as clay is to be found, together with a sufficient space for a passage from said parcel to the creek, on the south side of said lot, so long as clay is to be found in that place; the town to maintain a sufficient fence on the south side of said lot to the Little river or creek aforesaid, so long as the inhabitants make use of such way." Soon after, this property coming into possession of John Fairbanks, senior, some difficulty relating to this fence arose between the new proprietor and the town. The case was finally left to the consideration of referees, mutually chosen, who, in 1678, decided that the town pay to Fairbanks 30s. in money, and also allow him two small parcels of land adjacent, containing about three and an half acres, in full satisfaction.

*[Faint, illegible handwritten text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]*

Clay is also found to some extent on the Sprague farm at Low Plain, on land of Leonard Fisher in the south parish, and other places in the town. This clay is now more valuable for the manufacturing of sheathing paper than bricks.

## A CATALOGUE OF NATIVES OF DEDHAM,

*Who have Graduated at Harvard University.*

[For the collecting and tracing out the names comprised under the above title, and for their parentage and date of birth, the reader is indebted to one of the number. The other points of their history, which are annexed, are contributed by a friend.]

The year each person graduated is prefixed to his name. Those without a mark prefixed were of the First Parish. † West Parish. ‡ South Parish. § Fourth Parish, now Dover.

1675. DANIEL ALLIN, son of Rev. John and Margaret Allin, born August 5, 1656. Winthrop calls him (Ms. Hist. of Graduates) "a physician in Boston." He seems from his Will, (Suffolk Prob. Rec.) to have died in December, 1692.

1687. JOSIAH DWIGHT, son of Timothy and Ann Dwight, born February 8, 1670; first minister of Woodstock, Ct., from 1690 to 1726; first minister of Dedham, West Parish, ordained June 4, 1735, dismissed May 10, 1743; returned to Woodstock; died in 1748. He published in 1745 in Boston an "Essay on the outcry raised against regular singing," (the then modern fashion of singing the entire hymn consecutively) also, a sermon originally preached at Framingham. Flynt Dwight (H. U. 1724) was a son.

1693. JOHN WOODWARD, son of Peter and Mehitabell Woodward, born December 7, 1671; second minister of Norwich, Ct., ordained in 1699; dismissed in 1716. He is asterized (that is, denoted as dead) in the Catalogue of 1748.

+ > 1706. DANIEL BAKER, son of John and Abigail Baker, born April 18, 1686; second minister of Sherburne, ordained in 1713; married Mary Elliott, widow, sister of Edmund Quincy (H. U. 1699) died May 14, 1731. He published two sermons, 1726-28.

1706. NATHANIEL FISHER, son of Daniel and Mary Fisher, born April 5, 1686; first minister of Dighton, ordained November 26, 1712, a colleague was given him in 1772; died in 1777.

+ 1703. Joseph Metcalf, son of Jonathan and Hannah Metcalf, born April 2, 1682, second minister of Falmouth, ordained in 1707; died May 24, 1723.

1706. JOSEPH AVERY, son of William and Elizabeth Avery, born April 9, 1687; first minister of Norton, ordained October 26, 1714; died April 23, 1770.

1706. JOHN AVERY, brother of the above, born December 26, 1685; first minister of Truro, for which he also served as physician, ordained November, 1711; died April 25, 1754.

1714. EBENEZER GAY, son of Nathaniel and Lydia Gay, born August 15, 1696; third minister of Hingham, ordained June 11, 1718; married Jerusha, daughter of Samuel Bradford of Duxbury; died March 18, 1787. His published sermons are eighteen in number, of which the "Old Man's Calendar" is best known and has been more than once re-printed.

1721. JABEZ WIGHT, son of Joseph and Mary Wight, born July 12, 1701; ordained at East Norwich, (now Preston) Ct., October 27, 1726; married Ruth Swan of Stonington, Ct.; died September 11, 1782.

1721. JOSEPH RICHARDS, son of John and Judith Richards, born April 18, 1701; physician in Dedham; Justice of the Peace; Representative; Colonel of Militia; died February 25, 1761.

1721. JOHN WIGHT, son of Daniel and Annah Wight, born April 22, 1699; first minister of New Marblehead, (now Windham) Me.; ordained December 14, 1743; married Mary Pond of Dedham; died May 8, 1753.

1726. DANIEL DWIGHT, son of Michael and Rachel Dwight, born October 28, 1707; the Boston News Letter which notices his death in Dedham speaks of him as "having fitted for the ministry and been an occasional preacher, but had for years engaged in other business" died July 4, 1747.

1726. JEREMIAH FISHER, son of Jeremiah and Deborah Fisher, born September 23, 1704; farmer in Dedham; married Elizabeth Cook of Boston; died July, 1752.

1737. †EBENEZER GAY, son of Lusher and Mary Gay, born May 4, 1718; third minister of Suffield, Ct.; ordained January 13, 1742; married Mary, daughter of Judge Cushing of Scituate; died March, 1796. He was succeeded by his son Ebenezer Gay (Y. C. 1787.) His only publication was a sermon at the ordination of Bunker Gay at Hinsdale.

1756. GEORGE DAMAN, son of John and Elizabeth Daman, born July 7, 1736; fourth minister of Tisbury, Martha's Vineyard, ordained

1692 John Morse, son of Ezra and Joanna Morse, born March 31, 1676; minister in Norton, Long Man. New York, died unmarried in 1700  
 1694 Elephoele Adams, son of William and Mary Adams, born March 26, 1677, ordained in New London, Ct. Feb 9, 1709; minister (1) at Middletown, (2) at New London. Died October 4, 1753

in 1760; resigned in 1779; removed to Woodstock, Vt., where he continued to preach, but was not resettled; died December, 1796.

1759. † SAMUEL KINGSBURY, son of Ebenezer and Abigail Kingsbury, born December 17, 1736; fifth minister of Edgartown, Martha's Vineyard, ordained 1761; married Jedidah Sumner of Brookfield; died December 30, 1778.

1760. † BUNKER GAY, son of Lusher and Mary Gay, born July 31, 1735; first minister of Hinsdale, N. H., ordained August 17, 1763; resigned in 1801; married Abigail Prentiss of Cambridge; remained in Hinsdale; died October 19, 1815. His Thanksgiving sermon, 1793, is perhaps unique, a large portion of it being written in verse. He published also two other discourses. A manuscript letter of his still exists, narrating the Indian assault on Hinsdale in 1755.

1761. NATHANIEL AMES, son of Dr. Nathaniel and Deborah Ames, born October 9, 1741; physician in Dedham, where he was also an active political partisan of the Jefferson school; married Melitia Shuttleworth of Dedham; died July 21, 1822.

1763. † BENJAMIN BALCH, son of Rev. Thomas and Mary Balch, born February 12, 1743; first minister of Mendon, South Society, ordained September 14, 1768; resigned October 14, 1772; during the Revolutionary war was chaplain in the naval service; installed third minister at Barrington, N. H., August 25, 1784; died May 4, 1816.

*See Born in Barrington, N. H. May 20, 1815*  
1763. NATHANIEL FISHER, son of Jeremiah and Elizabeth Fisher, born July 8, 1742; went to London in 1772 and was ordained as Deacon by Bishop Lowth; became Episcopal minister of Granville and next of Shelburn, Nova Scotia; returning to Massachusetts in 1782, was for a time put in durance as a British subject, but released on taking the oath of fidelity to the State; came the same year to Salem where he was inducted as Rector of St. Peter's; married Silence Baker of Dedham; died December 20, 1812. A small volume of his sermons was published in 1818.

1764. SETH AMES, son of Dr. Nathaniel and Deborah Ames, born February 14, 1742; physician in Amherst, N. H.; returned to Dedham with impaired health, the consequence, according to Farmer, of his boundless indulgence in snuff; but other accounts say, from a pulmonary disease contracted while Surgeon to an American Regiment; died January 1, 1778.

1766. † JOSHUA FISHER, son of Nathaniel and Elizabeth Fisher, born May 17, 1748; physician, first in Ipswich till 1780, where he was one of their Revolutionary Committee of Correspondence, and next in

*1760 † Samuel Deane, son of Samuel & Rachel Deane, born August 30, 1733; minister in Portland, Me., settled in 1764; married Sarah Corliss; died November 12, 1814.*

Beverly; President of the Massachusetts Medical Society; married (1) Abigail daughter of Daniel Staniford of Beverly (H. U. 1738) (2) Mrs. Bridge of Lancaster; died March 15, 1833. By his bounty, a fund was created in his native religious society and a Professorship of Natural History, bearing his name, founded in his Alma Mater.

1768. EBENEZER STARR, son of Jonathan and Sarah Starr, born May 1, 1744; physician in Dunstable, Mass.; married Hannah, daughter of Hon. Joseph Blanchard of Hinsdale; died September 7, 1796.

1771. JOSEPH AVERY, son of William and Bethiah Avery, born October 14, 1751; second minister of Holden, ordained December 21, 1774; married Mary Allen of Boston; died March 5, 1824. An oration of his, delivered at Holden, July 4, 1806, was published.

1771. † MOSES EVERETT, son of Ebenezer and Joanna Everett, born July 15, 1750; ninth minister of Dorchester, ordained September 28, 1774; resigned from ill health January 14, 1793; Judge of the Court of Common Pleas for Norfolk County; married (1) Lucy, daughter of Rev. Thomas Balch of Dedham, (2) Joanna Bird of Dorchester, (3) Hannah, widow of Henry Gardner Esq., State Treasurer; died March 25, 1813. He published two single sermons, one being at the ordination of his brother Oliver Everett, 1782. Moses, Ebenezer and Stevens Everett (H. U. 1796, 1806, 1815) were his sons.

1774. FISHER AMES, son of Dr. Nathaniel and Deborah Ames, born April 9, 1758. He began life as an Attorney at Law in his native town, from which he was soon diverted to a wider and more congenial sphere, and his name and fame, as an orator and statesman, have become a part of American History. He was a Delegate to the State Convention on adopting the Federal Constitution, 1788; first Representative in Congress for Suffolk District; President elect of Harvard University, 1804, which honor he declined. He married Frances, daughter of Hon. John Worthington of Springfield, and died July 4, 1808. His speeches and political and literary essays were collected into a volume, to which his life, by the Rev. Dr. Kirkland, was prefixed in 1809. In the cemetery of his native village a beautiful monument of marble marks the spot where his remains are deposited.

1774. § JABEZ CHICKERING, son of Joseph and Rebecca Chickering, born November 4, 1753; second minister of Dedham, South Parish, ordained July 3, 1776; married Hannah, daughter of Rev. Thomas Balch, his predecessor; died March 12, 1812.

1775. EBENEZER BATTELLE, son of Ebenezer and Prudence Battelle, born February 4, 1754; merchant in Boston; returned to Ded-

ham; engaged in merchandize; Colonel of militia; married Nancy Durant of Boston; removed to Marietta, Ohio, with the pioneer company of emigrants in 1788; settled at Newport; died January 10, 1815.

1776. EBENEZER WIGHT, son of Ebenezer and Subiah Wight, born September 24, 1750; second minister of Hollis Street Church, Boston, ordained February 25, 1778; resigned from impaired health and sight, September 7, 1788; returned to Dedham where for some years he was teacher of an academy; married (1) Sarah Brown of Waltham, (2) Catharine Fuller of Dedham; died September 25, 1821.

1776. PETER WOODWARD, son of Richard and Susanna Woodward, born December 14, 1753; removed with his father's family to New Haven, Ct., Merchant; Deputy Sheriff; went to New York about 1800, was employed in the Custom House there and became an active democratic partisan. He is asterized in the Catalogue of Yale College for 1811.

1777. SAMUEL SHUTTLEWORTH, son of Samuel and Abigail Shuttleworth, born November 1, 1751; ordained at Windsor, Vt., June 23, 1790; left the ministry after a few years and entered the profession of law; married Deborah Ames of Dedham; died October, 1834.

1779. † OLIVER EVERETT, son of Ebenezer and Joanna Everett, born June 11, 1752; fourth minister of the new South Church, Boston; ordained January 2, 1782; resigned from ill health, May 26, 1792; Judge of the Court of Common Pleas for Norfolk County; married Lucy, daughter of Alexander S. Hill of Philadelphia; died December 19, 1802. Alexander H.—Edward, late Governor of Massachusetts, and John Everett (H. U. 1806, 1811, 1818) are his sons.

1780. † PHILIP DRAPER, son of Timothy and Hannah Draper, born March 2, 1757; physician in Dedham, South Parish; married Mehitabel, daughter of Jeremiah Kingsbury of Dedham; died March 21, 1817.

1783. † ICHABOD DRAPER, brother of the preceding, born August 24, 1755; first minister of Amherst, Mass., Second Church, ordained January, 1785; resigned October, 1809; remained in Amherst; died December, 1827.

1789. SAMUEL HAVEN, son of Rev. Jason and Catharine Haven, born April 5, 1771; entered the legal profession; Register of Probate for Norfolk County from 1793 to 1833; Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas for Norfolk; married Elizabeth, daughter of Bossenger Foster, Esq., of Cambridge; resident in Dedham from the first.

1795. † CURTIS GUILD, son of Moses and Sarah Guild, born May 9, 1774; died while student of medicine, June 20, 1797.

1799. † JOSEPH CHICKERING, son of Rev. Jabez and Hannah Chickering, born April 30, 1780; seventh minister of Woburn, ordained March 28, 1804; dismissed April 11, 1821; installed at Phillipston, third minister, July 10, 1822; resigned from ill health July 15, 1835; married (1) Elizabeth White of Concord, (2) Sarah A. Holt of Andover; died January 27, 1844.

1804. † JABEZ CHICKERING, brother of the preceding, born August 28, 1782; lawyer in Dedham; Cashier of Dedham Bank; married D. F., daughter of Abel Allyn of this town; removed to Munroe, Michigan, in 1823; died October 20, 1826.

1805. † SAMUEL GAY, son of Jesse and Sarah Gay, born March 16, 1784; third minister of Hubbardston, ordained October 17, 1813; dismissed from his charge in 1827 and was settled over an "Evangelical Society" of seceders, including a majority of the church; married Elizabeth, daughter of Rev. Jabez Chickering of Dedham.

1808. † JEREMIAH DRAPER, son of Dr. Phillip and Mehitabel Draper, born April 19, 1789; farmer in Dedham; married Sabrina Wait of Montreal; died September 29, 1840.

1808. † MOSES DRAPER, brother of the above, born January 5, 1791; lawyer in Boston but resides in Dorchester.

1810. † GEORGE GAY, son of Willard and Sarah Gay, born March 10, 1790; lawyer in Boston; married Nancy, daughter of Joseph Lovering of that city; died November 9, 1843.

1813. JOHN WORTHINGTON AMES, son of Fisher and Frances Ames, born October 22, 1793; lawyer in Dedham; Representative; President of Dedham Bank; died, unmarried, October 31, 1833.

1815. DANFORTH PHIPPS WIGHT, son of Rev. Ebenezer and Catharine Wight, born February 8, 1792; physician in Barnstable; returned to Dedham in 1842, and continues in the practice of medicine.

1816. GEORGE BAKER, son of Eliphalet and Anne Baker, born July 9, 1796; physician in Lancaster; next druggist in Cambridgeport; has resumed his profession in Chelsea; married (1) Eliza D. Hastings of Boston, (2) Emily Tidd of Medford.

1822. JEREMIAH FISHER AMES, son of Fisher and Frances Ames, born October 9, 1802; physician in Providence, R. I.; returned to Dedham; died, unmarried, January 23, 1829.

1822. † CURTIS GUILD, son of Moses and Abigail Guild, born September 22, 1799; trader in Boston; married Charlotte L. Hodges of that city.

1822. JOHN HOLBROOK RICHARDS, son of Samuel and Mary Richards, born February 23, 1804; physician in Boston; engaged in mercantile business in Paris, France, in 1833; returned home in 1839; settled as a merchant in Chicago, Illinois; died, unmarried, October 22, 1846.

1825. SETH AMES, son of Fisher and Frances Ames, born April 19, 1805; lawyer in Lowell; Senator from Middlesex; married Margaret, daughter of Gamaliel Bradford, of Charlestown.

1837. JAMES RICHARDSON, son of James and Sarah Richardson, born May 25, 1817; ordained in Southington, Ct., June 10, 1846.

1843. EDWARD STIMSON, son of Dr. Jeremy and Hopestill Stimson, born October 29, 1823; physician in Boston.

+ > 1846. GEORGE MORRILL, son of Joseph and Nancy Morrill, born September 7, 1825; student of law in Boston.

The Rev. Mr. Haven enrolls (note to his occasional sermon, 1796) Samuel Dexter (H. U. 1781) and Jonathan Fisher (H. U. 1792) among the graduates of Dedham; but in fact, the first was born in Boston and the last in Holden. The nativity of Caleb Ellis, Joel Ellis, and Warren Colburn (H. U. 1793, 1803, 1820) has, in some publications, been referred to Dedham; but they were born in Walpole.

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*The following Natives of Dedham have graduated at other Colleges.*

1797. ABIJAH DRAPER, son of Abijah and Alice Draper, born September 22, 1775, graduated at Brown University; married Lavinia Tyler of Attleborough; physician in Roxbury; representative; died March 26, 1836.

1821. † OLIVER EVERETT, son of Ebenezer and Sally Everett, born November 11, 1798; graduated at Brown University; physician in Sherburne; married Maria Sanger of that town.

1822. GEORGE HOWE, son of William and Mary Howe, born November 6, 1802; graduated at Middlebury College; Professor of Theology in Dartmouth College; Professor of Biblical Literature in the Theological Seminary, Columbia, South Carolina.

1826. SAMUEL FOSTER HAVEN, son of Samuel and Elizabeth Haven, born May 28, 1806; graduated at Amherst College; lawyer in Lowell; librarian of the American Antiquarian Society, Worcester; married Lydia, daughter of Rev. Freeman Sears of Natick.

+ 1845. ‡ George Dought Guild,  
son of Moses and Julia Guild,  
born March 17, 1825; student in  
the Law School, Cambridge.



1831. FRANCIS WILLIAM BIRD, son of George and Martha Bird, born October 22, 1809; graduated at Brown University; married (1) Rebecca Hillbrooke of Providence, (2) Abby F. Newell of Roxbury; manufacturer in Walpole.

1832. JOSHUA BATES, son of Joshua and Anna Bates, born March 17, 1810; graduated at Middlebury College; Professional Teacher in Boston.

1833. GEORGE TRACY METCALF, son of Theron and Julia Metcalf, born August 17, 1810; graduated at Brown University; lawyer in Peoria, Illinois.

1833. JOHN CODMAN BATES, son of Joshua and Anna Bates, born November 5, 1812; graduated at Middlebury College; lawyer in Montgomery, Alabama.

1835. PRENTISS BATES, brother of the preceding, born May 16, 1814; graduated at Middlebury College.

1836. † DAVID ANDREWS, son of David and Susanna Andrews, born September 15, 1807; graduated at Amherst College; ordained at Pepperell, Mass., January 29, 1840.

1837. WILLIAM BATES, son of Joshua and Anna Bates, born January 18, 1816; graduated at Middlebury College; ordained at Northbridge, Mass., November 5, 1845.

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#### ANCIENT SCHOOL FUNDS.

That the inhabitants of Dedham in former years had an earnest desire that those who came after them should receive the benefits of a good education, is abundantly evident upon the face of the records. Grants of lands and donations of money, to be appropriated for the support of a school or schools in this town, are often recorded. That a large portion of the funds so appropriated have, from some cause not fully explained, been diverted from the purpose intended by the original donors, I believe to be true; but whether they can now be sought out with any benefit to the present generation, is rather problematical. The school funds which had accumulated previous to the Revolution, were probably swallowed up in those convulsive times, when the greatest sacrifices were endured and every available means put in requisition by the inhabitants, in order to bring that glorious struggle to a successful issue. These funds have not since been replaced.

A brief notice of some of these grants and donations, and the doings of the town thereon, it is thought may not be wholly uninteresting at this time, as tending to elucidate the intention of the donors, and at the same time render to the inhabitants of this town in former years that degree of credit for the interest they manifested in the cause of education which is justly their due. This last consideration is here offered as my apology, if any is needed, for introducing the subject, without pretending to give a full and perfect history.

In the infancy of the town we find that a Free School was established, and 20*l.* per annum, and the income of certain lands were appropriated for a limited period for its support, by the unanimous concurrence of the inhabitants.

Dr. William Avery made a donation of 60*l.* to the town, in 1680, to be appropriated for the benefit of a Latin school. Ensign Fuller, sergeant Pond, and sergeant Metcalf, with the reverend Elders and selectmen, were deputed to receive and dispose of the money so that it might be improved according to the wish of the donor.

In the year 1695, three hundred acres of the best of the unappropriated lands, situated in the north part of the town, now included within the bounds of Needham, were granted by the Proprietors for the benefit of schools in Dedham, to be called the School Farm. Four years after, the town direct that this land be sold, and the proceeds be improved for the benefit of a school in Dedham. In 1700, the sum of 25*l.* of the school money is loaned without interest to Timothy Whiting, to assist him in rebuilding his corn mill which had been destroyed by fire. In 1703, William Avery, Lt. Samuel Guild and Nathaniel Gay are chosen a committee to collect and improve the money accruing from the sale of the school farm.

The committee empowered to sell the School lands being desirous to have some security from the town to save them harmless for so doing, drew up a writing for that purpose, which they presented in May, 1707, and requested it should be entered upon the records. The town consent that the aforesaid writing shall be entered upon the records and stand for their security, when-

ever the selling committee shall pay over the principal and interest to the Trustees appointed to receive and improve the same.

Near the close of the sixth volume of the town records, is entered an account of the School Money rendered by the Trustees to the selectmen on the 6th of June, 1721. The securities held by them from different individuals to whom the money was loaned, amounted to 98*l.* 4*s.* and the interest then due to 7*l.* 4*s.* 3*d.*

In 1722, the question being put to the town whether the school money shall be let out to the inhabitants for 5 or 6 per cent. interest, it was decided in favor of 6 per cent. In the year following, it was voted that such persons who have hired the school money and given their bonds for silver money, may pay it in to the feoffees in trust in bills of public credit. In 1732, the Trustees of the town's share of the 50,000*l.* of bills of credit, issued by order of the general court in 1721, are directed to collect and pay over the same to the Trustees of the school money, to be by them improved for the use of the school as the other school money is. The sum so transferred was 61*l.* 17*s.* 5*d.* The Trustees who received this money were Jabez Pond, John Gay and John Metcalf.

A donation of money was made to the town by Robert Avery in 1726, which was confided to the care of the Trustees of the school money for improvement. Neither the amount of this gift nor its particular object is stated in the record.

In 1735, a committee was chosen to attempt by any lawful means the recovery of the School Farm, sold by order of the town in 1699; the selling of which being now declared injurious to the town, and contrary to the true intent of the original grantors. This committee is instructed to make a formal demand of the land of the possessor, and to pay him reasonable damages in case he will relinquish his claim to the town without recourse to the law; and if he will not, then to prosecute recovery of it in the law, for which purpose the sum of 30*l.* was granted. The result of the doings of this committee does not appear in the town record.

In 1748, deacon Nathaniel Kingsbury made a donation to the town of one hundred pounds; the yearly interest of which to be appropriated for the benefit of the school.

In May, 1754, the town voted, "that Michael Metcalf, town treasurer, and his successors in said trust, be the Trustees to take care of the town's stock of school money, and that all bonds given for said money be renewed, and that the several debtors bind themselves, their heirs, &c. with one or more sufficient securities. The bonds to run to the town treasurer for the use of the town."

In 1766, the sum of 6*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* was presented to the town by Samuel Dexter, Esq. to be added to a like sum given by him the previous year; the interest of which to be applied to the support of schools in the town. Mr. Dexter continued to give a like sum each year for several years subsequent to this, for the same purpose.

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The *Old Dam*, across Charles river, about three fourths of a mile southwest from New Bridge, was built by Abraham Shaw and his associates with the design of erecting a corn mill there, previous to the discovery of the facilities afforded for that object at East Brook. The latter place having been selected for the erection of the first corn mill in 1639, the original design appears to have been abandoned. That a mill of some kind was put in operation here is rendered probable from the fact that this spot is frequently alluded to in the early records as the Old Mill; as in 1659, when "Lieut. Fisher and John Hayward are deputed to lay out that land to Henry Wight, near the place called the Old Mill, upon the north side of Charles river, according to that grant." In 1704, "it was put to the vote of the town whether they will forego the New bridge over Charles river, and build a bridge at the place called the Old Mill—voted in the negative." In 1714, leave was granted to Eleazer Ellis and Nathaniel Chickering to fence in the highway leading to the new foot bridge, they engaging to maintain a gate across said way, which is to continue until the town see fit to alter it. Several pieces of timber in a good state of preservation have recently been excavated at this spot, supposed to have been laid in constructing a flume to the mill, more than two hundred years ago.

## SETTLEMENT AT MEDFIELD.

In the year 1649, it was determined to commence a settlement near Bogastow, now the town of Medfield. A petition of the inhabitants of Dedham for the grant of a tract of land, "towards the accommodation of a Town to be erected and set up in or near that place commonly called Bogastow," having been granted by the general court, on the "22d of the 8th month," corresponding to the first day of November, a general meeting of the inhabitants was held on the 24th day of November, for the further consideration of the subject.

At this meeting, there was "granted for the accommodation of the villiage so much land within the west end of the bounds of Dedham, next Bogastow, as is or may be contained within the extent of three miles east and west, and four miles north and south—the form and lines in laying out to be varied and altered as in the judgment of such men as shall be deputed thereunto shall seem for the most convenient accommodation both of Dedham and the said villiage."

The question respecting the conditions upon which this grant of lands was made, having been fully discussed, it was resolved by vote, that "the said land is by some intended to be freely given, and by others, in consideration of part of the meadows, to have such satisfaction for their right therein as in the division of one hundred pounds divided by common rules of division to those of the inhabitants of Dedham that remove not to the villiage may come to their share; but that part of the estate of them that remove, that abides in the town, shall receive dividends as other estates do."

A committee was chosen by the town to have the management of affairs at Medfield, "until there is such a company of men engaged in that plantation and associated together as the town of Dedham shall judge meet for that work and trust."

This committee immediately proceeded to the work of forming a company to occupy the new settlement. By virtue of the authority given them by the town of Dedham, they adopt the following regulations for the present government thereof:—

“ For as much as for the further promulgation of the Gospel and the subduing of this part of the Earth, amongst the rest given to the sons of Adam, and the enlargement of the bounds of the habitations formerly designed by God to some of his people in this wilderness, it hath pleased the Lord to move and direct as well the much honored General Court as also the inhabitants of the Town of Dedham, each of them in part to grant such a tract of land in that place called Bogastow and the adjacent parts thereabouts, as is adjudged a meet place for the erecting and settling a Town, we the persons whose names are here under-written being by the inhabitants of Dedham, elected, chosen, and authorized, for the ordering and managing the said Town, or villiage, to be erected for the due settling thereof, as also for the preventing of questions, mistakes, disorders and contentions that might arise, do order, determine and resolve as followeth :

“ 1st. That all persons whatsoever that shall receive lands by grants from the said Town now called Medfield, shall become subject to all such orders in any part or points of Town government as are at present or hereafter by the authorities of said town shall be made and appointed for the ordering, regulating, or government thereof, provided they be not repugnant to the orders, or any order, of the General Court, from time to time, and that every such grantee shall for the firmer engagement of himself and his successors, their use, subscribe his name to our Town Book, or otherwise his grants made to him shall hereby be made void and of none effect.

“ 2d. That if differences, questions, or contentions shall fall out or arise, any manner of ways in our society, or between any parties therein, that they shall really endeavor to resolve and issue the same in the most peaceable way and manner, before it shall come to any place of public judicature, except it be in our own town

“ 3d. That we shall all of us in said town faithfully endeavor that only such be received to our society and township, as we may have sufficient satisfaction in ; that they are honest, peaceable, and free from scandal and erroneous opinions.

“ 4th. That none of us, the inhabitants aforesaid, or our successors at any time hereafter for the space of seven years from

the date hereof, upon any pretence whatsoever, without the consent of the selectmen for the time being first had and obtained, shall alienate, assign, and set over for the space of one whole year, any part or parcel of land formerly granted to him or them by the Town, except it be to some formerly accepted of by our society; always provided, that this shall in no sort hinder any heir at common law."

Signed by

HENRY CHICKERING,  
RALPH WHELOCK,  
JOHN DWIGHT,  
THOMAS WIGHT,  
PETER WOODWARD,  
ROBERT HINSDALE,  
ELEAZER LUSHER,

} *Selectmen.*

Three only of this committee, viz. Messrs. Wheelock, Wight, and Hinsdale, removed to Medfield.

The following are the names of the persons who subscribed to form the Society for removing to Medfield :

Ralph Wheelock	Joseph Daniels	Benjamin Crane
Thomas Wight	John Wight	Thomas Mason
John Frary	Robert Hinsdale	Edward Adams
John Plimpton	Benjamin Albee	Alexander Lovell
John Allin	Henry Smith	John Metcalf
Timothy Dwight	Abraham Harding	Peter Adams
Daniel Morse	Thomas Thurston	Joshua Fisher
Thomas Ellis	John Bullen	Joseph Allen
Samuel Bullen	Joseph Morse	John Partridge
Richard Wheeler	Henry Adams	John Warfield
Joshua Pratt	William Partridge	Thomas Thurston jr.
John Ellis	Joshua Fussell	Gershom Wheelock
Joseph Clark	John Bowers	Robert Mason
George Barber	John Frary	
Francis Hammant	Nicholas Rockett	

Of the above number, eighteen subscribed the paper by making their marks; from which fact it is fair to infer that they were not all of them writing masters, but their particular occupation is not stated.

On the "25th of the 10th month, 1649," (January 4, 1650, new style,) a meeting of the aforesaid committee was held, when Eleazer Lusher was chosen to keep the Records of Medfield, until another person should be chosen for that purpose. Rules are also adopted for an equitable division of lands among the settlers.

On the 11th of January, 1651, the town of Dedham formally transferred all their right, power and privileges of town-government that hath hitherto or yet is remaining with them in regard to Medfield, either by their trustees or agents, unto the selectmen of Medfield.

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#### SETTLEMENT AT WRENTHAM.

In the year 1660, lieutenant Fisher and sergeant Ellis were deputed to treat with the Indians or sagamore who claims right to the lands at Wolomonopog, now the town of Wrentham, to buy them all out and clear the place from Indian title; and also they were desired to search and view the place, and report to the town its fitness for a settlement there.

This committee having performed the service required of them, make report, "that the place might be planted with meet inhabitants in due time;" and recommended that a larger committee be appointed to make further surveys. In pursuance of this recommendation, three others, viz. Nathaniel Colburn, Anthony Fisher, jr. and Eleazer Lusher, were added to the first committee.

At a general town meeting, March 27, 1661, after hearing the report of this committee, the question being put, "whether or no a plantation shall be set up at Wolomonopog," it was decided in the affirmative. Six hundred acres of land at that place were appropriated at this meeting, for the encouragement of settlers. It was also "Voted, that there shall be a committee chosen to settle and determine such things as shall be mentioned and needful in reference to the Plantation before named:—First, They shall determine by their power when men present themselves who are meet for to go. 2d. They shall proportion to each man his part in the six hundred acres. 3d. They shall order the seating of the plantation, as situation, highways, and a convenient place for the meeting-house; lot or lots for church officers, with such other things necessary as hereafter may be expressed." The men selected for this work were captain Eleazer Lusher, lieut. Joshua Fisher, ensign Daniel Fisher, and Peter Woodward, and they were required to attend to the work until others were chosen.



In November, 1661, the bounds of the new settlement were definitely fixed by the town, and ordered to be laid out by a committee appointed for that purpose. The meadow lands found within the prescribed limits, to be apportioned among those who may become inhabitants. All other meadow lands that may be found within the original grant of the general court, to belong to the inhabitants who shall yet remain in Dedham.

In January, 1662, the committee for clearing the Indian title to lands about Wolomonopog, presented to the town a writing under the hand and seal of sagamore Philip, showing "the purchase of six miles square, or the quantity thereof." Captain Willett, of Seekonk, having assisted the committee in this business and engaged in behalf of the town to pay the sagamore the sum agreed upon, a vote of thanks is tendered him, and a request is made that he would continue his good offices and get a deed signed by the said sagamore that may be authentic according to our laws. A rate is also ordered to be made and collected for the payment to captain Willett of the money so expended by him for the town. The sum paid sagamore Philip was 24*l.* 10*s.*

A proposition was made to the town to yield up all their rights at Wolomonopog, both in upland and meadow, for the accommodation of the plantation, provided it be to such persons as are fit to carry on such a work in church and commonwealth, according to the order formerly agreed upon by the town. The persons entering the new plantation to pay the town of Dedham one hundred and sixty pounds, in four years, 40*l.* each year, the first payment to be made in 1666, and to end in 1669; the plantation to be entered upon within two and an half years. This proposition was concurred in by the Proprietors.

Some difficulty occurring in the collection of the rates assessed for the payment of the money advanced for the town by captain Willett, the selectmen met with the committee chosen to decide upon the things relating to a settlement at Wolomonopog, to settle the matters pending between the town and those who propose going to the plantation. This conference was held on the 27th of February, 1662, but no satisfactory arrangement was made at that time. A general meeting of the Proprietors took place on the 2d of March following, when it was agreed that every propri-

etor should draw his proportion of the six hundred acres according to the general rule of dividends, and that the said six hundred acres should be laid out with as much convenience as may be with reference to a plantation, and also be such lands as are suitable for house lots. All lands for highways, church officers lots, burial place, training ground, and such as are necessary to be reserved for public use, within the seat of the town, to be laid out over and above the six hundred acres before mentioned.

Another meeting of the proprietors was held on the 23d of March, 1662, to draw their lots at Wolomonopog, when it was agreed that ten acres should be added to the last sixty acres upon the plain, that they may be allowed one acre to every six acres to such as fall by lot in that part of the plain, and the addition to be made on the north side of the plat. Anthony Fisher, jr. and eight others who had made improvements there, were allowed to select their proportions where they had made such improvements, instead of drawing their lots with the rest. A highway was subsequently confirmed, where it had already been laid out and used, at the east end of the lots where these improvements had been made.

In June, 1666, all persons are forbidden to mow any of the grass growing on the common meadows at Wolomonopog, before the beginning of September next, under a penalty of ten shillings for every load of hay so cut, unless they shall obtain leave from the selectmen so to do.

In January, 1667, a survey of the meadows yet lying in common was ordered to be made, preparatory to a division. Lieut. Fisher was appointed for this service, and directed to lay out the lots in succession as they are drawn.

There were yet several Indian families remaining at Wolomonopog, who continued to plant and improve the lands, after their own fashion, as they had been accustomed to do. The new owners of the soil, considering their manner of proceeding as extravagant and wasteful, make complaint to the selectmen, who thereupon send a letter to the Indians, the contents of which are made known to them by Samuel Fisher, forbidding them to proceed in wasting the wood and timber there. The Indians, in re-

ply, declare their determination to continue to plant land there, notwithstanding the orders of the selectmen.

A letter being received from sagamore Philip in August, 1669, tendering sale of his rights in the lands within the bounds of Dedham, beyond Wolomonopog, and desiring 5*l.* in advance, Nathaniel Payne of Rehoboth is requested to disburse that sum to Philip, on the town's account.

On the 6th of April, 1670, a dividend of half an acre of the common lands, fit for mowing, is ordered to be made to each cow common. Richard Ellis, in behalf of himself and Isaac Genery, gave notice to the town clerk that there are "hopes of discovering a Copper Mine, they having made already some proof thereof within the bounds of Wolomonopog in Dedham, at a place called Haynes' ground.

1673. Wrentham, late Wolomonopog, is set off from Dedham, and incorporated as a town. December 4, the books and papers relating to the new town, are ordered to be delivered into the hands of the committee empowered by the general court to order the prudential affairs of Wrentham.

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MILL CREEK.

In the year 1668, an explanation being required of the selectmen, as to the precise meaning of the words in the grant to Ezra Morse and Daniel Pond, the owners of the new mill just erected by them on Mother Brook, in reference to the height of water in Mill Creek—"It was declared, that by an ordinary course of water it is to be always understood to be when the water in Charles river is generally within the banks of the river." This mill being set on the same stream, and above the old mill, and the town being desirous to have both mills encouraged and kept in motion, it is further declared, that "in time of drought or want of water, the water shall in no such time be raised so high by the occasion of the new mill, that the water be thereby hindered of its free course or passage out of Charles river to the mill." The proprietors of the old mill are at the same time restricted from raising the water in their pond so high as to prejudice the new mill by the flowage of back water.

A piece of upland and meadow containing about one and an half acre, adjoining on the north side of Mill creek, was granted to Richard Ellis in 1669, in exchange for land taken from his house lot for the highway to the new mill; the right being reserved for the proprietors of either of the mills, or their successors, or for the town, to enter upon said land adjoining the creek, for the purpose of clearing or enlarging the same from time to time.

Previous to 1686, the waters of Charles river had occasionally been lowered in this vicinity, by removing obstructions in its channel, so as partially to drain the meadows and prevent damage by reason of the waters laying long upon them. In the extreme drought of this year, in order to furnish the mills with water, the town "see reason to allow that we may have a supply of meal, that the river about forty rods below the mill channel's mouth, be raised to its former height." The Mill creek was cut from Charles river through the meadows to the source of the stream called Mother Brook, in 1639.

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#### POLITICAL CHARACTER.

Mr. Worthington in his history of Dedham, page 81, says—"From the first settlement of this town, the inhabitants have exhibited great stability of character. Those opinions and principles which they have at first adopted, they have steadily supported and maintained. In a period of one hundred and ninety years, I do not observe an instance of a minority in any important measure, so far increasing its numbers as to produce a change in the political character of the town. In colonial times, they were ever opposed to royal partizans, of provincial governors they were ever jealous, and when there was an organized opposition to them, on that side. In the revolution, they were unwavering and united. They approved of the constitution of the State and of the United States. They have at all times approved of a republican administration of them."

The same historian, on page 77, says—"When political parties arose in the United States, under the name of *federalists* and *republicans*, a large majority of the inhabitants became attached

to the latter party. This majority, generally, as three to one, has continued to the present time,"—1827. The principal political parties are now, in 1847, organized under the name of *democrats* and *whigs*; the latter still retaining about the same relative majority as the *republicans* of former times.

In the Appendix to the Centennial Address delivered in this town September 21, 1836, by Samuel F. Haven, Esq. is a list of one hundred and six names of soldiers from Dedham who served in the "Revolutionary War of Independence," communicated by Hon. William Ellis. Since the publication of that address, Mr. Ellis' further researches into the Army Rolls and other military records have enabled him to communicate to us the following additional names of citizens of Dedham, who were

SOLDIERS IN THE REVOLUTION, Viz :

Andrew Everett	Hezekiah Battle
Samuel Wight	James Googins
Nathaniel Wight	William Hewins
Jesse Ellis	Ichabod Draper
David Andrews	Andrew Hodges Tracy
Eleazer Everett	Jason Fuller
Elijah Caswell	Archibald McMullen
Seth Sampson	Ithamore Farrington
William Starr	Edward Bullard
Asa Payson	Michael Malcomb
Peter Oliver	John Bacon
Thomas White	Eleazer Rhoads
Samuel Gould	

The association of Veterans (alluded to on page 34) that mustered here on the 19th of April, 1775, was composed of aged men, many of whom had been in actual service in former years. In the afternoon of that day this company paraded on the Little Common, in front of the first parish meeting-house, from the steps of which a prayer was offered by Rev. Mr. Gorham of Roxbury, when they immediately followed their younger brethren in arms who had preceded them to the scene of battle at Lexington. The Veterans were led by Hezekiah Fuller and Nathaniel Sumner, two of the oldest and most respected of the citizens.

## REPRESENTATIVES TO THE GENERAL COURT.

[The names of Representatives previous to the year 1696 are not entered upon the Town records, except in 1694, when it is incidentally mentioned that bills are given to Lt. Richard Ellis and Thomas Metcalf, to receive 5*l.* each, in part pay for services as Representative.]

1696 John Fuller	1754 Joseph Richards, Esq.
1697 Thomas Metcalf	1755 Voted not to send.
1698 Asahel Smith	1756 Dea. Nathaniel Sumner
1699 Josiah Fisher	1757 " " "
1700 to 1704, inclusive	1758 " Joseph Ellis
Capt. Daniel Fisher	1759 " " "
1705 to 1711, inclusive	1760 Capt. Jonathan Metcalf
John Fuller	1761 Eliphalet Pond, Esq.
1712 Capt. Daniel Fisher	1762 Nathaniel Sumner, Esq.
1713 " " "	1763 Eliphalet Pond, Esq.
1714 Eleazer Kingsbury	1764 to 1768, inclusive
1715 John Fuller	Samuel Dexter, Esq.
1716 " " "	1769 Nathaniel Sumner, Esq.
1717 " " "	1770 " " "
1718 Dea. Jonathan Metcalf	1771 Abner Ellis
1719 Capt. Samuel Guild	1772 " " "
1720 Joseph Ellis, jr.	1773 " " "
1721 " " "	1774 Samuel Dexter
1722 " " "	Abner Ellis
1723 Thomas Fuller	1775 Samuel Dexter
1724 " " "	Abner Ellis
1725 Lt. Joshua Fisher	1776 Abner Ellis
1726 " " "	Jonathan Metcalf
1727 Joseph Ellis, senior	1777 Abner Ellis
1728 " " "	1778 Jonathan Metcalf
1729 Eleazer Ellis	1779 " " "
1730 to 1734, inclusive	1780 Abner Ellis
Joseph Ellis	1781 Abner Ellis
1735 to 1740, inclusive	Ebenezer Battle
John Metcalf	1782 Capt. Joseph Guild
1741 Joseph Ellis	1783 " " "
1742 Joseph Richards	1784 Nathaniel Kingsbury
1743 Richard Ellis	1785 Nathaniel Kingsbury
1744 to 1750, inclusive	Samuel Dexter
Col. Joseph Richards	1786 Nathaniel Kingsbury
1751 Dea. Joseph Ellis	1787 " " "
1752 Joseph Richards, Esq.	1788 Fisher Ames
1753 " " "	Nathaniel Kingsbury

1789	Joseph Guild	1823	William Ellis
1790	Joseph Guild		Col. Abner Ellis
1791	Nathaniel Ames		Pliny Bingham
1792	Nathaniel Ames	1824	William Ellis
	Nathaniel Kingsbury		Pliny Bingham
1793	" "		Josiah S. Fisher
1794	Nathaniel Kingsbury	1825	Richard Ellis
	Isaac Bullard	1826	" "
1795	to 1800, inclusive	1827	to 1829, inclusive
	Isaac Bullard		Richard Ellis
1801	Isaac Bullard		Horace Mann
	Ebenezer Fisher	1830	Richard Ellis
1802	Ebenezer Fisher		Horace Mann
1803	" "		John Endicott
1804	" "	1831	Theron Metcalf, (in May)
1805	Ebenezer Fisher		Richard Ellis } in Nov.
	John Endicott		Horace Mann }
1806	Ebenezer Fisher	1832	Theron Metcalf
	John Endicott		John W. Ames
	Isaac Bullard	1833	Theron Metcalf
1807	John Endicott		Richard Ellis
	Isaac Bullard		John Morse
	Samuel H. Deane	1834	John Endicott
1808	to 1813, inclusive		John Morse
	John Endicott		Daniel Covell
	Samuel H. Deane	1835	William Ellis
	Jonathan Richards		Daniel Marsh
1814	John Endicott		John Dean 3d
	Erastus Worthington	1836	Joshua Fales
	Col. Abner Ellis		John Morse
1815	Erastus Worthington		Daniel Covell
	Samuel H. Deane	1837	Joshua Fales
	Col. Abner Ellis		John Morse
1816	John Endicott		Daniel Covell
	Abner Ellis	1838	Joshua Fales
	William Ellis	1839	" "
1817	Abner Ellis	1840	" "
	William Ellis	1841	Merrill D. Ellis
	Timothy Gay, jr.	1842	" " "
1818	William Ellis	1843	" " "
1819	" "	1844	Joseph Day
1820	" "	1845	" "
1821	Edward Dowse	1846	Edward L. Keyes
1822	John W. Ames		

## RELIGIOUS SOCIETIES.

The *First Church* in Dedham was gathered November 8, 1638, three years after the settlement of the town commenced. The first house for public worship was built the same year, on the spot now occupied by the first parish meeting-house. The second meeting-house was built on the same site in 1673. This house stood until 1763, when it was taken down to give place for the present meeting-house, which was erected that year, though the building has been much altered and enlarged since that time. In 1659, the original Proprietors of the Township appropriated certain portions of their common lands, for the support of the ministry here; this being the only church then existing in the town. The annual income derived from the proceeds of these lands is now about one thousand dollars.

In 1818, a considerable portion of the members having seceded from the parish and formed a distinct society, among whom there was said to be a majority of the old church members, but a minority of the whole society, a controversy arose as to which society the funds of the church belonged, to the old or to the new society. The question was finally referred for the decision of the supreme court, which, after a full investigation, in 1821, confirmed them to this church and society, then under the pastoral charge of Rev. Dr. Lamson.

The outside clock on the meeting-house was presented to the parish in 1820, by Hon. Edward Dowse; the inside clock was the gift of Messrs. John and Samuel Doggett; the large and beautiful chandelier was given by Ebenezer Fisher, jr., in 1845. The organ now used in the church was substituted for a smaller one in 1820.

John Allin, the first pastor of this church, was ordained April 24, 1639. William Adams, ordained December 3, 1673. Joseph Belcher, November 29, 1693. Samuel Dexter, May 6, 1724. Jason Haven, February 5, 1756. Joshua Bates, March 6, 1803. Mr. Bates was dismissed February 20, 1818, to take charge of Middlebury college, in Vermont, of which Institution he had been appointed President. Alvan Lamson, the present pastor of this church and society, was ordained October 29, 1818.



The "*New Meeting House Society*," in the first parish, was originally composed of persons who separated from the first church and society in 1818. A house for public worship was erected in 1819; it stands on the spot formerly occupied by the dwelling-house of Rev. Jason Haven, which was taken down to give place for the new building. The chapel adjoining the meeting-house was built and furnished by the pastor. The society was incorporated in February, 1822, under the name of the "Proprietors of the new meeting-house in Dedham." Ebenezer Burgess, D. D., the present pastor was ordained March 14, 1821.—Mr. Burgess is absent at the present time, with his family, travelling in foreign countries.

The *Congregational Society in the second parish*, was organized June 23, 1736, and consisted of fifteen male members.—Thomas Balch was ordained pastor, June 30, 1736. Jabez Chickering, ordained July 3, 1776. William Cogswell, April 26, 1815. In June, 1829, Mr. Cogswell received the appointment of general agent for the American Education Society, and entered upon the duties of his office in August following, though, at the request of his people, he continued his pastoral relations with them until the settlement of his successor. In January, 1832, Mr. Cogswell was appointed Secretary of the American Education Society, which office he still sustains. On the 16th December, 1829, Harrison G. Park was ordained pastor of this society, and continued until September 23, 1835, when he was dismissed, at his own request. Calvin Durfee, its present pastor, was ordained March 2, 1836.

Before the separation took place between this and the west parish, it appears there were two meeting-houses erected, the location of neither of which gave general satisfaction. The committee appointed by the general court in 1734, to settle existing difficulties, re-united a portion of the people living in the north part of the parish to the "old precinct," until they became a separate precinct two years afterwards. This committee also recommended to the south parish to remove the "centre meeting-house," (as that one was called which stood at the "four corners," half a mile southward from the present meeting-house in the

west parish,) to the site a few rods west of the house then occupied by Rev. Mr. Balch, and afterwards by Rev. Mr. Chickering. A new meeting-house was erected in 1769; this was taken down in 1828, to give place to the present one, which was built the same year, and dedicated on the 9th of October. This society has a small fund for the support of the ministry, the communion table, and for singing, contributed by different individuals.

The *Congregational Church in the third parish* was organized, and Josiah Dwight installed as pastor, June 4, 1735. The number of male members at this time was thirteen. It was called the second church, as the south parish had none connected with it at that time. The present meeting-house was completed in 1809, and dedicated on the first of March, same year. The old meeting-house stood about twenty rods southward from the new one, on land given by Mr. Joseph Ellis.

In May, 1743, the connexion between the parish and Mr. Dwight was dissolved, at his request. In November, same year, Andrew Tyler was ordained pastor. Serious difficulties occurring in the society, originating from trifling causes, Mr. Tyler was dismissed from his connexion with the parish, December 17, 1772. On the 7th of June, 1780, Thomas Thacher, having received a unanimous call from the church and parish, was ordained their pastor and religious teacher. Mr. Thacher died October 19, 1812, in the 56th year of his age, and 33d of his ministry. Rev. John White, its present pastor, was ordained April 30, 1814.

In a note appended to the centennial discourse of Rev. Mr. White, published in 1836, it is stated that the funds belonging to this society consist of between 5000 and 6000 dollars in money—of which sum \$100 was given by Miss Mary Gay; \$2000 were raised by subscription, and \$3000 was the bequest of Hon. Joshua Fisher, who also presented the parish with the bell now in use. The baptismal font was a gift of several individuals. The church is indebted to Mrs. Margaret Dewing for a legacy of \$100, which was appropriated for the purchase of plate; to deacon John Richards for a silver cup and two flagons; to Miss Sarah Richards and Miss Sarah Baker for two silver dishes, for the communion service. Miss Susanna Bredinno also presented the

parish with \$100, the income of which to be applied to the support of a school in or near the meeting-house. By the will of Rev. Thomas Thacher, the parish came in possession of his farm, containing about twenty acres, and personal estate to the value of \$365. There are also twenty-six acres of wood and pasture land belonging to the parish.

The pews in the meeting-house are the property of the parish. A custom of long standing still prevails of setting up the pews annually at auction, and those who wish to occupy them for the ensuing year bid for their choice.

As it is meet that harmony should exist among a choir of singers, to the honor of the choir in this society be it said, that during the ministry of the present pastor, thirty-three years, and for some time previous, there have been no feuds or discords to disturb its peace; and in the interval just specified, so punctual has been the attendance, that only on *one* occasion, and that a very stormy forenoon, have the regular services of the sabbath been unaccompanied by singing from the regular choir.

*Episcopal Society*, known as "St. Paul's Church," in the first parish. The first house for public worship was erected by this society in 1758. It was located on the spot now occupied by the Columbian House. In 1797, it was removed to the place known as Franklin Square, where it stood until the autumn of 1845, when it was taken down and its timbers scattered abroad. The present church was erected in 1845, near the site where stood the first building. Its style is of the pure mediæval gothic. The tower is a copy in true proportions, of the celebrated St. Magdalen tower, Oxford, England. Edward Whiting, recently deceased, left a bequest of one thousand dollars towards the erection of this church. The lands from which are derived the funds of this society, were given by Mr. Samuel Colburn, in 1756. In 1794, the legislature granted to the rector, wardens and vestry of this society a power to lease the lands belonging to the church; the present annual income from which is about \$700. A portion of the Colburn Estate, about twenty-two acres, covers a part of Dedham village, including the court house lot. William Clark was appointed the first Rector of this church, in 1768. He was

a graduate of Harvard University. William Montague became Rector in 1791. Cheever Felch, Chaplain in the Navy, officiated from Easter, 1819, till nearly the beginning of 1821. Isaac Boyle, ordained November 22, 1821. Samuel B. Babcock, the present Rector, has been connected with the society since the year 1832.

*Baptist Society*, in the third parish. Meeting-house erected in 1810, dedicated November 10, same year. Rev. William Gam-mel preached here and at Medfield alternately, until 1823. A distinct society was formed in 1824, to be called "The First Baptist Society in Dedham." Samuel Adlam was ordained pastor November 1, 1824. Jonathan Aldrich, January 3, 1828.—Thomas Driver, in May, 1830. T. G. Freeman, in the spring of 1839. Joseph B. Damon, October 13, 1841. J. W. Parkhurst, its present pastor, in October, 1843.

The *Second Baptist Society* have a house for public worship at Mill village. This house was built in 1843, on a spot a few rods eastward from the place where it now stands; it was removed to its present location in the fall of 1846, and is now furnished with a tower and a bell. They have had regular preaching on the sabbath since October last, but have no settled minister.

*Methodist Episcopal Church*, at Mill village, was organized in 1843, and consisted of 63 members. Their meeting-house was built the same year, and dedicated October 12. Their preachers are appointed by the Methodist Episcopal Conference, for limited periods. H. P. Hall, appointed in 1844, preached one year. J. L. Haniford in 1845, one year. William B. Stone, in 1846, one year. Leonard P. Frost is now preacher in charge.

*First Universalist Society*, in the south parish, was organized October 22, 1827. A house for public worship was erected in 1829, and dedicated January 14, 1830. The following record was made on the day of its erection: "The building this day erected, June 18, 1829, by the Universalist Society in the second parish in Dedham, is designed to be a Temple for the worship of the One Living and True God, the Universal Parent of mankind." Rev. Alfred V. Bassett was ordained as pastor of the

society, June 17, 1830 ; died December 26, 1831. R. S. Pope, though not formally installed, continued in charge of the society for three years from April, 1833. From that time there was no settled minister until Rev. Edwin Thompson was ordained as pastor, 28th October, 1841 ; resigned his charge in October, 1844. Rev. C. H. Webster, the present pastor, was installed June 24, 1846.

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FIRE DEPARTMENT.

At a special meeting of the town held in December, 1831, the sum of fifteen hundred dollars was appropriated for the purchase of fire engines and apparatus for extinguishing fires. This sum to be divided and expended among the several school districts, in proportion to the taxes paid by each. Any two or more districts were allowed to unite their proportion of funds for this purpose, and to locate their engine in such place as they might agree upon ; in case of disagreement, the location to be fixed upon by the selectmen. Any district or districts already possessing a fire engine might apply the money to which they were entitled to the repairing and improving their engine, and procuring fire apparatus, with the approbation of the selectmen, provided they dedicate their engine to the use of the town.

This appropriation of money had the effect of increasing the number of fire engines in the town, from *three*, the then existing number, to *eleven*. Some of these were small and not of the most powerful class, the sums drawn by the districts obliging them to study cheapness as well as utility. The engines were located in different parts of the town, and regular companies attached. In several of the districts liberal sums were raised by subscription and added to their share of the town grant, by which means more efficient apparatus for extinguishing fires was procured.

The following brief history of the formation of a few of these companies may be taken as samples of the whole.

Engines number 1 and 2, were originally purchased by private subscriptions. They were manned and kept in repair up to 1832, without expense to the town. Engine No. 1, called the

"Hero," was presented to the town for the use of the inhabitants in January, 1801. It is located at the Upper Village in the first parish. The names of the first company attached to this engine are—

Eliphalet Baker, jr.	Eli Parsons	Amasa Guild
David Dana	Reuben Newell	Calvin Whiting
Elisha Crehore	Reuben Richards	Jesse Clap
James Noyes	Reuben Guild	Paul Fisher

Engine No. 2, called the "Good-Intent," located in the Centre Village, was presented for the use of the inhabitants of the town in April, 1802. The following members composed the first company:—

John Guild	Stephen Farrington	Seth Sumner
William Bullard	James Richardson	George Gay
Thaddeus Mason	Martin Marsh	Abner Ellis
Herman Mann, sen.	Edward Russell	Francis Child
William Howe	John Bullard, jr.	Jesse Stowell
Nathaniel Guild	Josiah Daniels	Abner Atherton

*Mill District.* Engine No. 3, called the "Niagara," built by Stephen Thayer of Roxbury, was purchased in 1832, for 700 00  
Fire hook, bell and lamps, cost - - - 38 25

		\$738 25
District share of town grant, - - -	\$203 30	
Low Plain district added its share, - - -	40 00	243 30
Balance raised in the district, - - - -		\$494 95
Paid for repairs, &c. to May, 1846, in addition to what the town has paid, - - - -		\$254 36

*First Middle School District.* Engine No. 4, called the "Water-Witch," was purchased of Wm. C. Hunneman of Roxbury, March 9, 1832, for - - - - \$666 50  
151 feet leading hose, cost - - - - 97 00  
Hose-carriage, 4 buckets, torch, speaking trumpet, &c. 60 00

		\$823 50
District share of town grant, - - -	\$390 87	
Added by subscription, - - -	376 62	767 49
Balance paid by engine company, - - -		\$56 01

The first company attached to this suction engine was appropriated March 10, 1832, and consisted of forty-two members. An engine house was erected for the company by E. Fisher, jr. in 1832, and the free use of it given them for twelve years. The present engine house, (a double one,) was built by the town in 1846, and the company held their first regular meeting there August 3, same year.

Engine No. 11, the "Enterprise," located at Upper Mill village, in the first parish, cost, in 1826,	-	-	-	-	400	00
24 buckets cost,	-	-	-	-	60	00
Engine house,	-	-	-	-	112	00
Repairs, &c. previous to 1832,	-	-	-	-	66	06
						<hr/>
						\$638 06

This is one of the three engines existing in the town previous to 1832, and was originally purchased by individual subscriptions. In 1832, suction hose was added by the proprietor of the woollen manufactories, who also had the engine refitted and put in complete order for service, without expense to the town.

In 1834, the sum of five hundred dollars was raised in the Centre village, by subscription of the inhabitants, for the building of two Reservoirs, and supplying them with water from the aqueduct leading from Federal Hill.

An association is organized in the Centre village, for removing articles of furniture, &c. in case of fire. The annual meeting of this company is holden on the first Monday in January. It consists of twenty-five members.

On the fourth of September, 1832, nine of the engine companies met in the Centre village, by invitation of the firewards, for a trial of the powers of their several engines. Again, on the second centennial celebration of the incorporation of the town, September 21, 1836, eight of the companies were present, with their apparatus, and took a part.

The following is a Statement of monies paid from the Town Treasury, from January 1, 1832, to May 3, 1846, for rent of engine houses, repair of fire engines, purchase of hose, &c. (exclusive of the before mentioned grant of fifteen hundred dollars.)

apportioned among the several companies, as near as can be ascertained from the town records, viz:—

<i>Located in the First Parish.</i>				
Engine	No.	1	.	\$101 43
"	"	2	.	164 67
"	"	3	.	303 25
"	"	4	.	150 56
"	"	5	.	41 28
"	"	11	.	26 10
				\$787 29
<i>Second Parish.</i>				
"	"	7	.	341 89
"	"	10	.	421 88
				\$763 77
<i>Third Parish.</i>				
"	"	6	.	51 23
"	"	8	.	453 83
"	"	9	.	173 09
				\$678 15
				<hr/>
				\$2229 21
Paid for hose, mostly attached to engines in first parish,				791 46
				<hr/>
Total,				\$3020 67

The amount of monies paid to engine-men during the above period is not included.

On the fourth of May, 1846, the Town voted to raise the sum of twenty-five hundred dollars for the erection of engine houses, and for placing the Fire Department in a more efficient state for service. A special committee was also chosen, consisting of George Ellis 2d, Samuel C. Mann, David A. Baker, from the first parish, Joseph Day, from the second parish, and Merrill D. Ellis from the third parish, to carry the object into effect. Under the direction of this committee a double house has been erected in the Centre village, for the accommodation of companies 2 and 4, which cost, with suitable fixings, \$889,52; for the land on which it stands, \$350. At Mill village an engine house built for company No. 3—cost \$561, land \$50. A new engine purchased of Hunneman & Co. for company No. 1, at the Upper village—cost \$631, from which deduct \$111, received for the old "Hero;"—and \$120 were expended for fire hooks, ladders, buckets, and carriage, attached to company No. 2.

On the ninth of November, 1846, the town appropriated six hundred dollars for the purchase of land and building an engine



house for company No. 8. At the March meeting, 1847, the sum of \$250 was granted to build an engine house for No. 6, and \$600 for a house for No. 7. April 5, 1847, the sum of six hundred dollars was appropriated for the purchase of land and building an engine house for company No. 1, and a like sum for a similar purpose for company No. 10. These expenditures to be under the direction of the committee chosen in May, 1846.

The rooms of companies 2 and 4 have been liberally furnished with needful furniture, by subscription of citizens in the Centre village, since the erection of their new engine house.

A special act of the legislature was passed in 1838, to establish a Fire Department in this town, which was rejected at the April meeting, same year, and again in November.

The whole number of members attached to the several engines at the present time, May, 1847, is 300. They receive from the town, each year, a sum equal to their poll tax.

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#### FIRES IN DEDHAM SINCE 1820.

1820. January 1, the Poor House took fire, extinguished with but little damage. January 29, Jabez Boyden's dwelling house with most of its contents, in south parish.

1822. January 4, Reuben Metcalf's dwelling house, just built on Ragged Plain.

1825. November 12, dwelling house at Mill village, occupied by John Goulding.

1827. March 8, an unoccupied dwelling house in third parish, belonging to D. Draper. March 27, the machine shop of Messrs. Coney & Ames, at Mill village, loss \$12,000. June 28, the dye-house attached to Bussey's woollen manufactory was partially burnt. July 31, J. Goulding's steam carpet manufactory—loss \$15,000.

1832. April 14, F. A. Taft's paper mill—loss \$7000. June 21, a stable belonging to Abner Ellis, west parish—loss \$1400. October 30, Dedham Hotel and stable burnt; an aged stranger, and sixty valuable horses perished in the flames—whole loss of property estimated at \$28,000.

1834. Jan. 7, the Phoenix Stable, and fifty-three horses burnt, loss \$10,000.

1837. Jan. 30, Car-house and contents at Rail-road depot.

1838. August 5, Jeremiah Draper's barn in South parish, together with forty-two tons of hay.

1840. June 24, a grist mill and turning shop in South parish, belonging to Charles Guild.

1841. June 30, a dwelling-house in first parish, belonging to George Alden, occupied by Comfort Weatherbee.

1842. January, Joseph Howe's shoemaker's shop and contents, on East-street.

1845. March 11, the New England Silk Factory—loss \$40,000. March 28, Ashcroft's calico printing works—loss \$15,000. September 13, J. F. Whittemore's store on Bow street—loss \$1200.

1846. July 12, Nathaniel Colburn's barn, together with 17 tons hay, a horse, and several swine, in west parish, destroyed by lightning—loss \$2000. July 17, paper mill at Mill village, known as Taft's mill, belonging to Norfolk Manufacturing Co.—loss \$10,000—being the third mill burnt on the same spot.

1847. January 23, the barn of Jeremiah F. Richards, on High-street, was set on fire and totally consumed, together with ten tons of hay, a yoke of oxen, two horses, and three cows. Loss \$1000. Insured at Norfolk Mutual Office for \$400. April 10, the Satinet factory at Mill village, owned by J. W. Edmonds took fire from friction in the picker room, and was partially burnt; insured in Boston. April 19, a dwelling-house near Cart bridge, occupied by George W. Pickering and Mr. Baxter, and owned by Francis Guild, was burnt to the ground—loss \$1000, insured \$700. May 1, Temperance Hall, in the Centre village, took fire from the stove pipe; its early discovery prevented an extensive conflagration. May 7, the shoe-maker's shop of Mr. Pond, at Mill village, was burnt, together with its contents.

NAMES AND LOCALITIES.

The following brief description of most of the places spoken of in these pages, will point out more distinctly their several localities. It may also be otherways interesting from the fact that long before the establishment of roads to any great extent in this settlement, different parts of the town were distinguished by some local name, on mention of which its situation was at once understood among the inhabitants. The numerous villages that now dot the hills and plains, and the broad thorough-fares which have taken the place of the obscure and serpentine "ways," as they were originally "laid out" from house to house in the wilderness, have lost many of these localities to the present generation. Some of them however are still well known. A knowledge of others that may have been lost or forgotten will at this day, it is believed, greatly assist those who may hereafter have occasion to search the records.

*Cart Bridge*, was built across Charles river in 1644, on the road leading from the old "training ground" to Dedham Island; which road was laid out "three rods broad," same year, through the planting lot of Michael Bacon. The bridge was the first one laid for the passage of teams or carts over the river in this town. A foot bridge had previously been laid across the river, at a place called the Key, about one fourth of a mile below this spot, near the place where the stone arch bridge now stands at powder house rock. At the rebuilding of Cart Bridge, just 120 years after it was first built, it is recorded that "John Simpson is allowed 5s. and 9d. for 6 quarts and one pint of Rhum, used at the raising of said bridge;" but for what purpose this article was used future generations must be left to conjecture, as the records furnish no further information.

*Purchase Meadows*, through the upper part of which the mill creek was dug to the source of East brook, is a part of the tract of land purchased or included in the compromise made with the town of Roxbury in 1650. In that year a committee consisting of Francis Chickering, John Dwight, Lieut. Fisher, and Eleazer Lusher, were chosen by the town to treat with the Roxbury peo-

ple for certain lands adjoining Dedham. The precise bounds between Roxbury and Dedham were not fully settled until 1697, when the selectmen of each town were empowered to define and fix the boundary between the two towns. A way to these meadows was laid out in 1685.

*Great Plain*, lies in East Needham. In the infancy of the town it was for many years improved by the Dedham people as a planting field, for the cultivation of wheat and other grain. A public highway to this plain, across Dedham Island, was directed to be laid out in 1644. In 1646, the surveyor was directed to take care of the same and keep it in repair from year to year. This was done but in part. In 1701, the selectmen established a road, three rods wide, from the great causeway to this plain, a former committee having failed to accomplish the work assigned them.

The *Great*, or *Long Causeway*, is a narrow strip of land at the westerly end of Dedham Island, adjoining the upper or south-westerly part of Broad meadows. A road was located in 1644, leading from Cart bridge over this causeway to the great plain. The causeway is about a fourth of a mile in length, and makes the northern bank of Charles river at this point. The river here turns suddenly to the southwest, and after forming the Island comes again to the Broad meadows, half a mile northeast from this causeway. Until the year 1724, this is called in the records the Great Causeway. In April of that year, a petition was presented to the town for a way to be laid out to the Planting Field Plain, "from the highway on the Great Island leading to the Long Causeway." In this quotation, the words "Great," and "Long," are interlineations in the original; but in the subsequent records it continues to be alluded to as the "Long Causeway," by which name it is now generally known. In 1760, a motion was made in town meeting, to petition the general court for the grant of a Lottery, to raise money to repair the "Long Causeway"—which motion was negatived.

*Westfield*, was one of the open plats, formerly improved by the first settlers as a planting field. It is in the westerly part of the first parish. The name is still retained, as comprising one of the

school districts of the town. A road from New Bridge leading by Westfield, through land of Jeremiah Fisher, was established in 1719; a way from this road to the farm of Nathaniel Richards was laid out by the town in 1715.

The old *Country Road*, leading southwesterly from East-street, through the easterly end of Ridge hill, was originally laid out four rods wide. Like the Cart bridge road, and some others in the town, it has in the course of time very perceptibly shrunk in some places from its ample dimensions as at first staked out.

*High Street*, commences at Dwight's bridge over Little river, and leads in a westerly direction by the Little Common and the old "training ground" to the road leading to Dover, in the upper village. Many of the lots apportioned to the first settlers are bounded on this street in the original grants. It has more recently been sometimes known as "Common-street." To prevent mistakes hereafter, the town, in March, 1839, restored the original name, and ordered it to be entered upon the records.

● *Pocumtuck* is the Indian name for the present town of Deerfield, in this State. Eight thousand acres of land were selected at this place, in 1664, by permission of the general court, in exchange for two thousand acres granted by the town for the Indian settlement at Natick. The town of Deerfield was originally laid out and settled by Dedham people. The Indian titles to the lands at Pocumtuck were purchased for the sum of 94*l.* 10*s.* which sum was assessed on the Dedham common rights, for the payment thereof.

*Great Island*, now known as *Dedham Island*, is situated in the northerly part of the town. It is formed by the waters of Charles river, which run from the western point of the Island at the upper part of Broad meadows, in a circuitous channel southeasterly towards the village, to Bullard's landing place; thence northerly to the lower part of Broad meadows, through which there is a ditch or creek extending from river to river. The Island contains by estimation about twelve hundred acres. One of the three *herd walks*, as the feeding grounds for cattle were called before the division of the common lands among the propri-

etors, was upon this Island. Another of these herd walks was on East street, and the third on South plain. In 1659, these herd walks contained 532 acres; at that time the inhabitants had feeding on them 477 cattle. The Proprietors also selected this Island for building lots, and some of the first houses erected in the town were located here.

*Ware's Causeway*, makes a small portion of the road leading from Cart bridge across Dedham Island to the great causeway. A way from this road, commencing near the bridge and passing by the houses of Capt. David Fuller and Thomas Smith, till it comes again to the first mentioned road at Ware's causeway, was established as a public highway in 1764. A gravel pit was reserved for the use of the town near this causeway.

*Ridge Hill*, is a remarkable range of elevated land, commencing near the westerly part of Wigwam pond and running south-easterly through the entire length of Wigwam swamp, a distance of about one mile and a quarter, to the old "country road," which it crosses a short distance north of the house of Hon. John Endicott. The height of this gravelly ridge is some fifteen to twenty feet above the level of the adjacent swamp; its width, from three to six rods.

*Wigwam Plain* is nearly surrounded by Wigwam Swamp. The Indians formerly had a settlement here, and continued to occupy the spot for many years after the Europeans had settled around them. *Wigwam Pond* adjoins this plain on the north-west.

*Pond Plain*, adjoins the Medfield road, in the west parish. A way from the road to the west side of the pond on this plain, was established in 1717, for a *Watering Place*.

*Low Plain* covers a surface of several hundred acres in the easterly part of the town. This plain is traversed by the Boston and Providence, and Dedham Branch railroads. It will doubtless in the progress of time be occupied by a portion of those inhabitants of the metropolis, who are seeking a pleasant and convenient location for their dwellings, in the immediate vicinity of the city.

The *Broad Meadows* adjoin Charles river on the north, and spread out in a southwesterly direction to the great causeway. A ditch or creek was dug from river to river through these meadows in 1655, apparently for the purpose of assisting to drain the meadows lying nearer the village.

*Metcalf's Island* was originally granted to Michael Metcalf, for three acres, more or less. It contains some seven or eight acres, and adjoins Charles river, at the southerly part of Broad meadows. A gravel pit was reserved on this Island for the use of all persons concerned, and also a passage through to the meadows beyond. *Powell's Island* is also on the Broad meadows, about one fourth of a mile below the first named. A causeway was directed to be made to this Island from the town's land in 1675, to facilitate the getting of hay. *Wilson's Island* lies adjacent to the last named.

*Little River*, is the name given to the stream that flows from Wigwam pond, through the *Little Meadows*, to Charles river. *Dwight's Bridge* is built across this stream, at the junction of High-street, Mill village and East-street roads.

*Green Lodge*, is a fertile tract of land, pleasantly situated in the southeast part of the town, adjacent to Neponset river and the railroad from Boston to Providence. A number of valuable and productive farms are situated here.

*Sandy Valley*, lies about midway between Dedham village and the west parish meeting-house. *Dead Swamp* is a short distance southward from this valley. *High Rock* and *Fox Hill*, in the west parish, are prominent eminences, from which a view of the city and harbor of Boston may be obtained. *Rock Meadows* and *Dunkling's Hole*, are situated in the northerly part of this parish.

*Planting Field Plain*, on Dedham Island, adjoins Charles river on the west. A road across this Plain from the one leading to the great causeway was established in 1724.

The *Landing Place* on the southwest bank of Charles river on the Needham road, opposite Metcalf's pond, was established by the selectmen in 1717,—“about five rods in width in the narrow-

est place, and eight or nine rods next the highway." A *Landing Place* was also laid out the same year, from the highway leading by the house of Nathaniel Richards to the river.

The *Great Common*, or "*Training Ground*," as it is called in the records, was appropriated by the Proprietors for the use of the military company, in 1644. It is an open piece of ground, containing now about two acres, of a triangular form, encompassed on two sides by public roads. It is crossed by another road leading over Cart bridge.

The first grant of this land to the military company was soon after confirmed, as appears by the following record :—" 7th mo. 10, 1648. Granted to the trained company of this town and to the officers thereof and to their successors forever, the free use of all that parcel of land commonly called the training ground, always provided that the said trained company, and the officers thereof, shall not at any time hereafter appropriate the said parcel or any part thereof, or improve the same to any other use than to the use of public exercise of the said company, without the consent of the selectmen of the town for the time being first attained ; neither shall it be in the liberty or power of the selectmen hereafter at any time to dispose of the said parcel or any part thereof, in any case, without the consent of the said trained company and the officers thereof, first had and manifest." [Rec. fol. 1, page 111 ; Richardson's transcript, page 7.]

In 1677, one acre of the training ground was granted to Amos Fisher and to his heirs forever, by consent of the parties interested ; and sergeant Daniel Pond was in like manner allowed to improve for that year one acre and an half of said ground, for which he was to pay thirty shillings in merchantable corn, and also " to lay down this land playne." Other persons were permitted to improve certain portions of this ground from time to time.

In the year 1687, the town being much in want of funds, it was proposed to sell the training ground, provided any one would give between 30 and 40 pounds in money for it, and provided also, that the requisite consent of the military company was obtained. It does not appear that any person offered to purchase.

An alms-house was erected by the town about the year 1773, on the westerly part of the training ground, the consent of the



parties interested being first obtained. In 1836, this building, "together with the land and appurtenances thereto belonging," was sold by order of the town.

The elm trees which now cover this formerly bleak and barren spot, were transplanted in 1842, by the voluntary efforts of the citizens.

The *Little Common*, is the open space in front of the first parish meeting-house; it is shaded by forest trees which were transplanted at different periods.

*East Street*, has continued to be known by this name since the origin of the town. It is a continuation of High-street from Dwight's bridge, on the east side of Little river. Some of the first houses erected by the settlers were located on this street. The original home lots, mostly of twelve acres each, were laid out on the north side of the street, "abutting upon the Little meadows towards the west," and extending back to the waste or unappropriated lands; each lot having a "highway four rods wide running through the westerly end of the same." An ancient oak tree yet stands in front of the deacon Avery house, on this street. It is much older than the town, and measures sixteen feet in circumference near the bottom of the trunk. Its top has been much twisted and torn by the storms of centuries, but the tree is still cherished as a proud specimen of the stately growth of its old companions of the forest. Seventy dollars were offered for it, to be used for timber in building the frigate *Constitution*, but rejected by the owner. Several new and tasteful dwelling houses have recently been erected on this street, and others are in progress.

*Charles River*, which makes the northern boundary of the town, in this part of its course varies from five to seven or eight rods in width, and flows with a very gentle current. It received its name from the emigrants who left England for this country with Governor Winthrop in 1629; they landed on a peninsula at the head of Massachusetts Bay, opposite which was another, with a river flowing between them and emptying into the bay, which in honor of Charles I. they named Charles river. The peninsula on which they landed they named Charlestown, and the

opposite one Boston, after a town in England from which some of the principal persons composing this company emigrated. Among these emigrants were included many of the first settlers of Dedham. We have the authority of Dr. Morse, (in his Geography and Gazetteer,) for stating that the Indian name of this river is *Quinobequin*.

*Purgatory Swamp*, is the name handed down to us from the first settlers, of an extensive tract of woods and low lands in the southeasterly part of the town, between Ridge hill and Neponset river. The Fowl meadows adjoin and stretch away to the southward of this swamp. *Purgatory Hole*, is a small pool of mud and water at the easterly end of this swamp, near the bridge leading over Neponset river to Canton.

*Wigwam Swamp*, is situated between Purgatory swamp and Dedham village. These two swamps are described by historians as having formerly been "dismal places, and the resort of wild beasts." Here then it was that the wolves and wild cats in former times congregated and held their revels, much to the annoyance of the early settlers of the town, and particularly detrimental to the young cattle that fed in the herd walks near by. In order to break up their den in Wigwam swamp, which latter was so near the village that "the wolf howl was heard from it," the inhabitants, for a time, in addition to the bounties offered for destroying these animals made it a condition of every grant of land, that the grantee should clear away the wood standing on a certain quantity of land in this swamp.

*South Plain* borders on the edge of the swamp southward of Ridge hill, and is traversed by a road leading by the houses of Nathaniel Smith and John Green. A road from this Plain to East-street was laid out in 1687.

The *Fowl Meadows* adjoin Neponset river, in the southerly part of the town. The superior quality of the grass on these meadows for the last one hundred and fifty years, is attributed to seed brought from a distance by the wild fowl, that in former times frequented these meadows during the spring freshets in large numbers.

*Mother Brook*, also called *East Brook* in the records, had its source originally about three fourths of a mile southeast from Charles river. It flows in an easterly direction and unites with Neponset river. Several valuable mills are situated on this stream, for the benefit of which a creek or canal was cut from Charles river through Purchase meadow to its source, in 1639. This Canal is probably the first one ever made in this country, and it is now known as *Mill Creek*. It is about three fourths of a mile in length.

*Village Avenue*, was so named by the town at the time of its establishment as a public highway in 1835, on motion of Samuel Swett, Esq. through a portion of whose lands it passes. It leads from High-street in the upper village southeasterly by the cemetery to Court-street, and is one of the very few streets which have received a "local habitation and a name," by order of the town. *Chesnut Avenue* leads from High-street southwesterly 628 feet to Village Avenue, 38 feet wide. *Eastern Avenue* runs from High-street northeasterly by the Phoenix House and Mechanic buildings, across the Little meadows, to the old post road leading to Boston.

*The Clapboardtrees*, is the name now generally used to designate the third, or west parish, and is so used in the act of incorporation. It was originally applied only to the wood lots on the eminence where the congregational meeting-house now stands, and the lands immediately adjoining on the north and east. The name was derived from the circumstance that on these lots formerly grew a certain species of timber trees, which being easily converted into boards were allowed to be used by the inhabitants for the covering of buildings, by special permit of the town authorities, in the early days of the settlement.

*Wolf Pits* are often spoken of in the early records, and were situated in various parts of the town. The settlement was for many years infested by wolves, which induced a bounty of ten shillings to be offered for each one killed within the town. The bounty was increased to twenty shillings in 1699, when an unusual number were destroyed by the hunters; but these troublesome animals were not entirely extirpated until a long period after that date.

*The Key*, a place so named by the first settlers, where, in 1637, a foot bridge was built across Charles river to Dedham Island, at or near the spot now occupied by a stone bridge at powder house rock. One of the first roads laid out by the original proprietors commenced at this place, crossing High-street near the Monumental Stone, and leading southerly towards Wigwam pond. For many years the persons annually appointed as fence viewers for that portion of the settlement called the Town, comprising all the home lots, had this Key road which divided the village plain nearly in the centre for a part of their district limits; the part which lay upon the upper side being called the west end of the town, that on the lower side the east end of the town. In addition to the duties devolving upon the office of fence viewers, which in those days was an important trust, they were required to see that the order of the town concerning ladders being placed against the houses, on each side of this division line, was duly complied with. The acre of land sold by Joseph Kingsbury to the town for the meeting-house lot, "abutted upon High-street towards the north, and upon the highway leading from the Key to the Pond towards the east." Why may not the substantial stone arch bridge at this spot be named the *Key Bridge*?

*Ragged Plain.* The place now known by this name lies on the road leading southerly from East-street, by the house of Capt. Jesse Farrington to the Purgatory meadows and Canton. Another place spoken of in the records as the "Ragged Playne," is situated southwesterly from the great common, in the vicinity of the upper village. The house lots of John Allin, Anthony Fisher, Thomas Dwight, and others, located there, are described in the original grants as having "the highway leading towards the Ragged Playne running through the same." Liberty was granted to Richard Wheeler, in 1660, to have his share of the five hundred acre dividend "laid out to him upon the Ragged Plain, near the pond, and on the south side of that pond, at the east end of the ridge."

*Federal Hill*, is a beautiful eminence rising from the meadows at the southerly part of the village, commanding an extensive view of the village plain and the scenery beyond.

*The Causeway*, across the meadows at Dwight's bridge, does not appear to have been distinguished by any local name, other than *The Causeway*. It was a work of much labor, on account of its length and the depth of mud where it is built, and was not completed until within a recent period. In the early days of the settlement, a plank bridge extended the whole length of this causeway, for the convenience of foot passengers. In 1666, sergeant Ellis is required to repair the foot bridge at this causeway with "planks and rayles from end to end, and to clear away a tree fallen in the way betwixt south plain and south meadow—and all in satisfaction for his defect in his highway work." In 1677, liberty is granted by the town to deacon Aldis, "to set his fence down into the highway at the gravel pit at the end of the causeway, provided he maintains two pair of bars for the town's use to fetch gravel for the town's use, under the direction of Nathaniel Colburn and sergeant Ellis." Colburn lived adjacent to the causeway on the west side of Little river, and Ellis on the east side. The gravel pit is now covered by the buildings at the railroad depot. In 1685, the town voted "to raise the causeway at the Little river to such a height as that carts may pass ordinarily without difficulty notwithstanding the water," and to do it on account of highway work.

*The Canoes*, a place so named, on the Needham road, where a passage or ferry across Charles river was formerly made with boats or canoes, before the building of the New Bridge on the spot. It was a more convenient and direct way from the town to the wheat fields on the great plain than the road across Dedham Island.

*The Elder's Causeway*, is built across the meadows on the old post road leading from Court-street to Federal hill. *The Elder's Lane*, as I infer, is a branch of the Key road; leaving the latter opposite the head of School-street, and leading southwesterly over this causeway. In 1682, the surveyors district limits were defined as follows: "Nathaniel Colburn and sergeant Richard Ellis are appointed fence viewers for the east end of the town to the Elder's Lane and so down to the river—for the west end of the town, to the aforesaid Lane, John Gay, sen. and Th. Battle."

*Wolomonopog*, is a tract of land purchased of king Philip, sachem of Mount Hope, in 1662. The tract purchased was six miles square, or a quantity of land equal to it, for which the sum of 24*l.* 10*s.* was paid. It now comprises the town of Wrentham.

*Bogastow*, is a tract of meadow and swamp, situated in the present town of Medway, in the easterly part, adjoining Medfield. The *Great Cedar Swamp* and *Stop River* are within the limits of Walpole. *Pegan Hill* and *Noanette's Brook*, in Natick.

The *Old Saw Mill*, frequently spoken of in the records of the first century of the settlement, stood where the batting mill of Caleb Ellis now stands, not far from the house of Richard and Wilard Ellis, in the third parish.

*New Bridge*, was built across Charles river on the Needham road in 1680, by sergeant Wight and Samuel Mills, who had petitioned the town for liberty to erect a bridge at this place, "where a passage is usually made over said river with canoes," which was granted them. A highway was laid out same year from the town to the bridge, and from the bridge to the great plain in 1684. The first named was established in the year 1700, two rods wide from the bridge through land of Ephraim Wilson, and from thence to the town three rods wide. Three acres of land were granted by the town to Ephraim Wilson in 1699, in full satisfaction for this highway through his lands, and for liberty to take gravel to mend the way at the bridge. In the spring of 1709, the bridge was carried away by a flood, but soon rebuilt.

*Bullard's Landing Place*, is at the bend in Charles river, on its southerly bank, between Dedham Island and the village. The original way to this landing place, as I infer from the records, was from the road leading from the Key to Wigwam pond. Some trouble existing at an early date in regard to this way, the subject was referred to the decision of five men, mutually chosen by the town, and Joshua Fisher, Joseph Kingsbury and Lambert Genery, through whose lands the way is laid out. In 1646 this committee decide, "that the highway lying between Joseph Kingsbury and Joshua Fisher, leading down to the landing place shall lie as it did before, and as it was at first laid out by Mr. Ed-

ward Alleyn and Abraham Shaw." Joshua Fisher is to set up and maintain five rods of fence as it was before, with fencing stuff which Joseph Kingsbury is to prepare and deliver on the spot where it is to be used, viz. "at the upper end of said highway;" and Lambert Genery fifteen rods in like manner, adjoining Fishers. In 1705, this way was abandoned and the present one established by the selectmen, "from the High-street by the meeting-house, between land of Rev. Mr. Joseph Belcher and Lieutenant John Baker, as they abut upon each other in part, and land of said Baker and William Bullard in part, crossing through the southwest corner of Bullard's orchard till it comes to the side of the hill at the landing place." Said Bullard to make and maintain said way, "good and passable for loaden carts," forever. A part of Kingsbury's twelve acre home lot from which the acre for the meeting-house lot was taken, lay upon the north side of High-street, and abutted in part "upon the way leading towards the landing place towards the south." In 1846, the town granted leave to Abiathar Richards to build and occupy an ice-house at this landing place.

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#### CASUAL REMARKS.

The founders of Dedham were a choice few among the number of those who fled from a religious persecution in their native land, and sought in this western clime a place of refuge where they could worship their God in a manner most congenial to their feelings. Here indeed they might hope to enjoy all the benefits of religious freedom. No forms of religion had been established, no rites observed but the idolatrous worship of the untutored native Indian. It remained for themselves to be among the first in this western wilderness to erect altars to the living God.

Upwards of two centuries have elapsed since this place was first inhabited by civilized man. The aborigines who were found in possession of the country could never be brought to assimilate their customs and habits with the European strangers. The rapid and continued encroachments of the settlers upon their corn-fields and hunting grounds, obliged these sons of the forest to retire deeper into the wilderness, and gradually give place to their

"pale-faced" superiors. As civilization advanced, they were compelled still further to retreat, and a descendant of their race is now rarely seen among us.

A large portion of those who first came here were men who had been well educated in the old country, and some of them were noted in the annals of literature in the European world. Looking forward to the benefit of posterity, they unitedly and early turned their attention to providing the means of instruction for their descendants. They done what they could for this object. If the second and third generations were any way deficient in this respect, the cause may be readily found in the peculiarity of their circumstances, and the necessity which then existed in the wilderness for more physical exertions in procuring the means of sustaining life, and fighting the Indians.

The bold pioneers who first broke the soil in this region might have been more or less tinctured with the intolerant spirit that characterized the age and forced them into exile, for perfection is not the lot of humanity. It would have been a miracle indeed had the first settlers of this town entirely escaped the influence of the bigoted and boisterous times in which they lived. Religious controversies and quarrels were the order of the day, as well in the new country as the old. But the examples of fortitude, perseverance, of foresight, and of confiding trust in an overruling Providence exhibited by them, demand our admiration and gratitude. We, their descendants, who now enjoy the fruits of their labors, would do well to imitate their virtues, and take as good heed that the cause of education, of civil and religious liberty, do not retrograde in our hands.

In process of time things began to assume a new aspect. The difference between an unenlightened and a civilized state of society became more distinctly visible. The rude wigwams of the natives gave place to more convenient dwellings, with the school house and the church rising in their midst. The dense forest, into which the rays of the sun could scarcely penetrate, was made to bow before the axe of the sturdy yeoman. Large tracts of land were cleared and fitted for cultivation, while the forms of society were also changed and improved.



Could the first settlers of Dedham who now repose in yonder grave-yard arise from their resting place and view the scenery around them, how changed would every object appear to their bewildered vision ! The first prominent object that might attract attention peradventure would be the towering steeple, rising from the identical spot where the first meeting-house, rudely built with logs and covered with thatch, was erected by them more than two hundred years ago, and in which they were wont to assemble on the sabbath for the public worship of the universal Father.

No coat of paint adorned *their* humble temple ; no windows of glass admitted the light to guide them in their devotions ; no notes from the deep-toned organ mingled with their voices in the loud swelling anthem of praise ; no cushioned seats, no carpetted floor or artificial warmth invited them to the place for bodily comfort and recreation. The pealing bell sent not forth its summoning notes for them. No worldly pride, or fondness for ostentatious display, impelled the first settlers of this town to congregate in the temple devoted to the service of the great Jehovah. Their devotion was the homage of the heart alone. The deep-felt, inward feeling of dependance on a superintending Providence for preservation and support, was sufficient to induce them to brave the wintry winds and numerous inconveniences, and assemble on this consecrated spot to unite in the worship of their God in the manner their consciences dictated.

Other objects would appear as strange to them as the rising spire. The Plain, on which they had pitched their tents, now covered with stately dwellings ; the fruitful garden spots and broad streets that have taken the place of the gigantic forest trees and winding "herd walks," would present but little to remind them of the familiar scenes peculiar to the spot two hundred years ago ! The very grounds set apart by the early settlers in 1638, "for the use of a public burial place for the town forever," would scarcely now be recognized by them, so much have they too partaken of the general change.

But the change to them would be no greater than it would be to the present generation, could we but go back to the times of the settlers, and realize the privations and hardships which they endured and surmounted. They were a hardy and a conscien-

tious race ; and, if we have not actually degenerated, it may well be a question with all of us, whether we should be as able and as willing to undergo fatigue and sufferings equal to theirs, for religion's sake, or for the sake of any thing that presented no prospect of making us richer in worldly goods ?

A century hence, and what further change will have taken place here ! The antiquarian and the scholar will search for the records and the works of *our* times, to transmit them to future generations ! May they be found rich in such things as may redound to the glory of God, and worthy of his enlightened creatures.

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